



(Left) Baby Samantha Renee Lovett is welcomed home by her parents, Toni and Paul Lovett of Hoisington. Samantha (right) was the first baby born via a water birth at the Great Bend Regional Hospital July 9. (Photos by Kristi Lovett)

**HOISINGTON COUPLE**

**Barton Hospital has water birth**

**BY KRISTI LOVETT**  
 HOISINGTON -- The birth of a child is always a treasured moment for any couple, but in this case, it was memorable for the hospital as well. Samantha Renee Lovett, the fourth daughter of Hoisington residents, Paul and Toni Lovett, was delivered by water birth. It marked the first-ever water birth for Great Bend Region Hospital and for OBGYN, Dr. Roger Marshall. Samantha Renee was born Friday morning, July 9, 2010 at a healthy 8 pounds 4 ounces.

And other than a slight case of jaundice that kept mom and baby over an extra night, everything went very smoothly. Toni reported very little discomfort from labor and delivery. "The warm water definitely helped with keeping me relaxed and focused. And then [the deliver] happened so fast that Paul actually got to deliver her." Dr. Marshall stood nearby giving Paul direction and encouragement. "It was a very relaxed and easy birth," said Dr. Marshall. "I have

always believed that having babies should be a positive experience. It is not a sickness, it is all a natural process, so I think that water births are a great alternative for women." "We were very pleased with how accommodating the staff was during the delivery," Paul said. "Some things we wanted were very new and unusual for them, but they were very helpful." The nurses at the hospital brought some levity in to the situation when they bought Marshall a swimsuit in anticipation of the delivery.

Early on in her visits Toni let Dr. Marshall know that she wished to have what is known as a water birth, where the baby is born underwater in a bathtub. Dr. Marshall had never performed a delivery this way, but was very willing to find out more about it. "During Toni's pregnancy, our office did a lot of research on the process and now that we have adequate facilities for this service (at GBRH), it was the logical next step for us." Dr. Marshall later quipped, "They say

you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but I guess you can!" The OB wing at the Hospital actually sent a nurse to a conference on water births to get more information, according to the Lovetts. After learning that Toni was pregnant, the Lovetts immediately started looking for a birthing center nearby since their other three daughters were delivered in birthing centers. But finding none, they turned to Dr. Marshall on the recommendation of their sister-in-law who delivered

with him last August. Samatha's sisters, Karen, Emily and Jessica, were very excited about her arrival at home. Paul is a Hoisington police officer and Toni is a very busy stay-at-home mom. They have lived in Hoisington for three years. Water births are currently on the rise in popularity in the U.S. It is known as a very effective relaxant and pain killer for mothers. The baby is then born into warm water which is the environment most familiar and comfortable to their fragile nervous systems.



Any outdoor activities by the water were enjoyable at a recent camp at Camp Wa-Ja-To, south of Lyons. (Photos by Godfrey Miheso)

**Sterling, KSDE work together**

STERLING -- Sterling College Associate Professor of Education Terri Gaeddert has served the Kansas State Department of Education on a project that benefits every teacher education program in the state of Kansas for more than two years. "Terri has been a part of the journey to create the Kansas Performance Teaching Portfolio from beginning to end," said Pamela Coleman, KSDE director of teacher education. "This has been very important for Sterling College students because the KPTP benefits both students and programs. Terri is always working to make things better." The entire STEP team, including teacher candidates and other faculty members, has been involved in get-

ting the KPTP ready. The KPTP is an evaluation tool that is used to assess teacher candidates' preparation in planning lessons, activities and assessments to meet the needs of all students. It provides teacher candidates with specific feedback on their progress from professors and area educators and helps prepare them for the Praxis I and II tests which are KSDE requirements for licensure. The KPTP was designed by a team of educators from various colleges and universities across the state. "Terri Gaeddert was an instrumental member of the team designing the document," said Gladys Ritterhouse, STEP Director. "As a result of Gaeddert's work, 2008-2009

STEP seniors participated in the pilot program for the KPTP, and this past academic year STEP seniors completed the KPTP under a no-fault plan. The students did well on the assessment, and, more importantly for the KSDE, their results helped to establish cut scores for the evaluation tool." As a member of the original designing team, Gaeddert was also trained to evaluate the KPTP. This past academic year she scored KPTPs from both SC and other Kansas colleges, and she served as a consultant this summer for the Educational Testing Service (ETS), the national company that developed the Praxis tests, the SAT, and other national-level tests. Gaeddert, Spencer Wagley, associate professor of education, and Dr. Ritterhouse have been specially trained by the KSDE to evaluate education programs. After receiving the training the professors regularly serve on visiting evaluation teams for other colleges and universities. "Time spent doing evaluation is intensive," said Gaeddert, "but it helps us to stay aware of what other colleges are doing. At the same time we are helping them, we are educating ourselves."

**FROM PAGE ONE**  
**CAMP**

In the afternoon, cabins competed in a scavenger hunt and the team work met the expectation as per the program. "Kids know how to work together, communicate, help each other and above all, encourage each other," Doss said. Doss said the 2010 theme of "Come to Me (Christ) was successful.

Students were fully committed in the retreat which involved both educative and informative with the emphasis of Catholic faith. Doss said. "Friday is the last day of our week together and we make sure we enjoy every minute of the time we have left together before another group comes in," he said.

**Rickabaugh Motors** See us at [www.rickabaughmotors.com](http://www.rickabaughmotors.com)  
 1001 Main Street • Lyons • 620-257-2382 **1-888-257-2382**

|  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| <p><b>NEW 2010 GMC Sierra</b><br/>                 1500 • Crew Cab • 4x4 • SLE Trim<br/>                 • HD Trailer Tow Z71</p>  <p>MSRP \$38,729<br/> <b>SALE PRICE \$31,729</b></p> | <p>*Price Includes<br/> <b>ReBates or</b><br/> <b>0% INTEREST</b><br/>                 up to 72 months</p> | <p><b>2010 Buick Enclave CXL</b><br/>                 loaded w/options, heated leather seats,<br/>                 a real dream to drive. Test drive today.</p>  <p><b>DISCOUNTED PRICE 31,729</b></p> | <p><b>2009 Chevy Impala LT</b><br/>                 Trim, Full Size comfort &amp; convenience.<br/>                 V-6 economy, balance Bumper to<br/>                 Bumper, New car warranty</p>  <p><b>SALE PRICE: \$16,950</b></p> | <p><b>IN STOCK • COMING SOON</b><br/>                 2010 Chevy Impala LT<br/>                 2010 Chevy Malibu<br/>                 2009 Chevy Cobalt LT<br/>                 2009 Pontiac Vibe<br/>                 2009 Nissan Altima S<br/>                 2009 Toyota Camry LE<br/>                 2009 Toyota Corolla LE<br/>                 2008 Buick LaCrosse<br/>                 2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee<br/>                 2007 Jeep Liberty Ltd<br/>                 2007 Dodge Dakota<br/>                 2006 Pontiac Grand Prix<br/>                 2004 Buick LeSabre Ltd.</p> |
|--|--|---|---|---|

Used Mini Vans: 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan • 2003 Grand Caravan • 2003 Ford Windstar • 2001 Ford Windstar • 2000 Chrysler Town and Country