'Week of the Young Child' Meet the daycare providers

Angie





April

Barb

Debbie

This is the national week of the education and preschool. young child and Norton child care providers are ones every mom and dad can appreciate.

Norton is lucky to have many people to care for and instruct our later. Now, with children of my young children while their parents are at work.

We salute these hard working, caring individuals and groups.

Norton County Home-Based Head Start **Debbie Lawson**

Norton County home-based Head Start is similar to the centerbased Head Start. The home based Head Start goes into the home and works with children and with their parents to make sure they are ready for kindergarten.

The service offers lessons, crafts and even lets the kids cook.

The service includes all children ages 3-5 in the county regardless of income.

The home-based Head Start program has been in Norton County daycare for a few months, she has for several years and Mrs. Lawson has been with the program for three years.

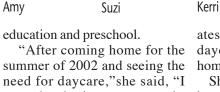
The service goes into the home once a week for an hour and a half and help's the children and parents with the skills they need in order to help prepare the child for kindergarten.

Special activities include a group socialization twice a month, which could include a visit to the fire station or a local greenhouse.

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The home-based Head Start program allows the parents to do a better job of teaching their own children.

Mrs. Lawson and her husband, 22, and Charli, 17.



Holly

need for daycare,"she said, "I opened my business seven months own, it's a great place to be."

Sunshine Learning Center Jennifer McKenna, director Ms. McKenna has been at Sun-

shine for 11 years and three years before that at home daycare.

She said that at the learning center the staff aims to have a variety of preschool activities and field trips

Busy Bees Daycare April Bashford

Mrs. Bashford and her husband Tim, who works at Norton Sheet Metal, have two children: Andrew, 9, a fourth-grader who is active in Cub Scouts, soccer, BB Gun and baseball and Clayton, 2, who keeps everyone on their toes.

While she has only been in had other jobs involving children including working as a parapro-Head Start preschool.

"I chose to open a daycare so I could stay home with my child.," she said. "I also enjoy the time I get to clean my house and do my school work on-line."

She said that her long-term goal is to become an elementary school teacher and she is working on her bachelor's degree through Fort Hays State University.

Amy Coffey Daycare Amy Coffey

Mrs. Coffey and her husband Rob have two daughters, Heather, Michael have two children, Kayla, 10, and Zachary, 7. Norton and say they want to raise their children here. She has been a licensed daycare provider in the home for 11 vears. She said that although she loves her job, if she had to choose another job, it would probably be as a nurse in a neonatal intensive care room as both of her children were born prematurely and had to be in intensive care and she remembers the care given them by the nurses.





ates a licensed daycare in her home She and husband Nathan have six children: Lucy,

Dallas, 7, twins, KaylaandKelly, Mona

Her mother Allie Whitt also lives

In her free time, she said, she enjoys spending time with her family which includes going bowling, going to the movies, shopping and just hanging out at home together.

Mrs. Donahey said that she has always wanted to be able to stay home with her children and after opening her daycare center in October 2005, she was finally

fessional in junior high and at time when her children are grown.

Little Lambs Daycare Libby Hartwell

Mrs. Hartwell and her husband Jeremy have three children Zach, 14, who is totally into sports; Nate, 9, who loves anything fast that gets him dirty; and Shaylee, 4, who loves babies and Barbies.

The family moved to Norton last May from Larned. The Hartwells were originally from McCook so this gets them closer to home, she said.

She started her daycare in August after working in a preschool class for two years and as a daycare pro-Both of the Coffeys grew up in vider for six years before moving. Mrs. Hartwell said that she has worked in a preschool or provided daycare for the past eight years and decided to open her own so that she could spend more time with her own children. She said that if she could do any other job in the world, it would be to teach autistic children. "I have worked with three (autistic) children ranging in age from preschool to fourth grade," she said.

Tuesday, April 15, 2008

THE NORTON TELEGRAM Page 3



A new traffic camera showed snowy conditions on I-70 looking east of Edson about 10 a.m. Thursday. The camera is one of eight put up by the Kansas Department of Transportation to let people see what is happening on roads across the state. The photos are updated every 15 minutes at the Web site 511.ksdot.org.

especially in inclement weather,

the better decisions they can make

about when to leave and the route

The cameras are at eight of the

department's 42 road weather in-

formation sites, selected because

they are spread widely enough to

These include four on I-70, at

show conditions across the state.

land), Junction City, Salina and at

Walker (nine miles east of Hays).

they choose.'

Camera catches road conditions

Travelers across Kansas have a car or truck," said Secretary of 50 at Garden City. new way to see what the road con- Transportation Deb Miller. "The ditions are where they're going with the addition of web camera views at eight locations, including one near Edson on I-70.

The cameras show conditions every 15 minutes on the Kansas Department of Transportation's road condition site, 511.ksdot. org.

The page also can be reached through the Travel and Traffic Info link on the department's home Edson (nine miles east of Goodpage at www.ksdot.org.

"The camera views will give motorists an important piece Other cameras are on U.S. 75 at pleased we now have an additional of information for their travel Topeka; K-39 at Chanute; K-96 at tool to share information with the plans before they get in their Webb Road in Wichita; and U.S. public," said Miller.

Rural Telephone sets annual meet

for Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc. will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 18, at the Ruppenthal Middle School Auditorium, 400 Elm, in Russell.

The meeting will include reports from the president and CEO/General Manager, the election of trustees, and a proposed bylaw change to address bringing the 10 new exchanges acquired from Sprint into the cooperative's existing zones.

Justin Lee Theleman and Rebekah programming. Hachmeister, from Natoma High School. The two seniors partici- tatives will also be available, entrance to provide directions to pated in the 13th annual Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour to Washington, D.C. June 2-6, 2007.

The 2008 Annual Meeting sored by Rural Telephone. In be treated to free hors d'oeuvres their presentations, they will share highlights of their visit to the nation's capital.

> Registration for the annual meeting will be from 5-6:15 p.m. in the Ruppenthal Middle School gymnasium.

Members will be able to browse the "Tech Zone" displays which will also be set up in the gymnasium. Rural Telephone/Nex-Tech staff will be demonstrating Lightning Jack High Speed Internet, Another highlight of the meet- Hi-Def CATV, digital video reing will be video presentations by corders, and 'On Demand' CATV

and have the opportunity to sign up for door prizes.

To view the images, click on the

Conditions" page. Those using

Internet Explorer can also access

the images by clicking on camera

icons on the road-condition map,

The eight cameras are the first

phase of a program to post road

images on the Web site. Twenty-

five more will be installed along

I-70 from Missouri to Colorado

road views on the Internet, and I'm

"We know travelers like to see

before the end of the year.

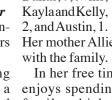
the department says.

more information travelers have, camera link at the top of the "Road

Rural Telephone will also be providing adult supervised childcare for cooperative members with small children who wish to attend the annual meeting.

"Movie Mania" is planned for children ages 3-8 and will be located in a nearby main floor classroom. Movies will be shown, games will be played and refreshments will be served in a safe, supervised atmosphere before and during the meeting.

Rural Telephone staff will be



able to do so. She is a licensed practical nurse and continues to work part-time. She hopes to return to nursing school with her oldest daughter in a few years and go into nursing full

16, Jordyn, 12,

Infant/Toddler Specialist Northwest Kansas Child Care **Resource and Referral** Joanna Chesterman

Ms. Chesterman is part of a team which works with day care providers. She teaches children and adults with special needs.

This is her first year of working in day care although she has taught in public and private schools for almost 10 years prior to becoming associated with a resource and referral agency.

Head Start Angie Hager Ms. Hager has taught Head Start

classes for six years.

She graduated from Fort Hays State University in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and in December of 2006 added an early childhood endorsement. She is working on a master's degree in early childhood education from Kansas State University which she hopes to finish in about a year.

She has three children: Stephanie, a seventh grader at Norton Junior High, Alec, a sixth grader at Eisenhower Elementary and Riley, a fourth grader at Eisenhower.

Ms. Hager said that she always wanted to teach preschool and had thought about opening one when the Head Start job opened up.

Holly's Playhouse Holly Puga

Holly's Playhouse is a licensed group daycare home.

Mrs. Puga's husband Cory works at Natoma. The couple have four children, Libbi, 3 1/2, Corbin, 23 months and Lilli and Layla, 9-month old twins.

She opened Holly's Playhouse in her home in 2002.

Before that she worked at Sunshine Learning Center for four years while in high school and has 10 years of childcare experience. She attended a year of college at Colby Community College working towards a degree in early

Little Angels Daycare Suzi Brooks

Ms. Brooks owns and operates Little Angels Daycare, a licensed daycare home, in Norton. She is married with two children.

"After my son was born, I wanted to stay home with him," she said. "So I opened my daycare. That was 3 1/2 years ago."

Kerri's Kiddie Kollege Kerri Donahey

Mrs. Donahey has lived in Nor- rather do than be a daycare proton since 1993 and she oper- vider." she said .. "I love my job."



facility. Leave a message if there is no answer

Little People Daycare Mona Coffey

Mrs. Coffey and her husband Mike have a son, Michael, who is married to Amy, and a daughter, Michelle Auker. They also have six grandchildren, Kayla and Zach Coffey and Collyn, Sylence, Alex and Abbey Auker.

She started Little People Daycare three years ago because her daughter needed daycare for her four small children.

"There is nothing else I would

demonstrating phones, discussing service plan options and providing signup assistance.

Their participation was spon- the Tech Zone displays will also the Russell community.

Nex-Tech Wireless represen- available at the school's main the childcare location.

Prior to the meeting, live music will be performed by 4-Told, a In addition, members visiting contemporary gospel quartet from



You're invited to

NEXTECH

Attend the **Rural Telephone Annual Meeting**

April 18, 2008

Ruppenthal Middle School, 400 N. Elm, Russell Doors open at 5:00 p.m. for product demonstrations. Register to win great prizes!*

Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Toll Free 1.877.567.7872

www.ruraltelephone.com • www.nex-tech.com *Must sign up April 18, 2008, to receive three months free service and must be present to win. Some services not available in all areas

High-Speed Internet

Lightning Jack High-Speed Internet is the most reliable and affordable Internet available! With Lightning Jack High-Speed Internet you will be able to check your e-mail faster and surf vour favorite websites with ease



Nex-Tech Wireless

There has never been a better time to switch. Nex-Tech Wireless offers superior nationwide coverage and has added over 150 cellular sites in central and western Kansas. Nex-Tech Wireless is owned by Rural Telephone/ Nex-Tech. We are comm communities we serve. itted to the



Financial & Cooperative Reports

- Election of Trustees
- Register before 6:00 p.m. for your chance at the early bird flat screen TV drawing!*
- Stay for the meeting because we will give away a second flat screen TV, a laptop computer and \$2000 in services from Rural Telephone and Nex Tech!*
- Refreshments will be served *Must be present to win

Digital **Television**

Nex-Tech Digital TV is an advanced technology that offers a superior quality picture and clear, crisp digital sound. With over 130 video channels and 37 music channels, Nex-Tech is the premier choice! We offer Caller ID TV to see who is calling on your TV screet plus a large selection of Hi-Def TV channels, DVR to pause, rewind, and record live TV and Video On Demand. Bundle your cable TV with other services for big savings!

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