

# School board takes care of yearly business

(Continued from Page 1)  
 copying records at 10 cents per copy; and setting petty cash limits of \$1,000 for the district office and \$500 each for the high school, junior high and grade school. This is not everything that was on the approved consent agenda.

- Appointed Board members Elaine Mann as board president and Jeff Nielsen as vice-president.
- Met the new high school principal, Rudy Perez, who has been on the job since July 1. Mr. Perez said people around town have really helped him and his family get settled and that he was looking forward to the upcoming school year.

- Adopted Resolution 07-01, setting the board's meeting date as the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the district office. The end-of-year meeting was set for the last business day of the fiscal year with a time to be determined later.
- Adopted Resolution 07-02, establishing home rule, which allows the board to do whatever is not expressly forbidden by the legislature.

- Reviewed policy changes. The changes will be voted on at the Aug. 14 meeting.

- Gave Mr. Mann approval to call a special meeting to approve a budget for 2006-07 and to have a goal setting session.

- Appointed Mrs. Lofgreen as the board representative to the North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperation board of directors. Mr. Nielsen was appointed as an alternate representative.

- Appointed board member Jennifer Terrell as the board representative on the Professional Development Council.

- Appointed board member Scott Ellis as the board representative on the Curriculum Coordinating Council.

- Appointed Frank Otter as the district's representative on the Northwest Kansas Technical College board of directors.

- Appointed Mrs. Lofgreen as the board representative on the Kansas Association of School Board's governmental relations board.

- Adopted Resolution 07-03, allowing for the waiver of Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures.

- Adopted Resolution 07-04, authorizing the early payment of bills and reimbursements.

- Approved the district's credit cards, their uses and credit limits.

- Continued the district's annual alternation of the district's checking account between First State Bank and First Security Bank and Trust, and continued investing idle funds in accordance with the board's policy. The motion passed 4-1, with Mr. Ellis voting no. Board member Craig Renner abstained from voting.

- Went into two closed sessions to discuss non-elected personnel, lasting a total of 15 minutes.

- Approved the base salaries and the pay for substitute and temporary jobs as presented.

- Reviewed the 2006-07 classified employee handbook. The handbook will be voted on at the Aug. 14 meeting.



Mentor, Rosalie McMullen, center, and students, Kelly Leiker, left, holding her daughter Ashlyn, and Troy Leiker gathered to discuss learning tools for Rosalie's Rainbow preschool.

— Telegram photo by Carlyn Plotts

## Dream comes true in form of 'rainbow'

By CAROLYN PLOTTS

For years Kelly Leiker had toyed with the idea of a daycare center.

Almost a year ago, following the birth of her daughter, Ashlyn, Mrs. Leiker and her husband, Troy, came to the realization that they wanted to find a way to provide a living for their family, while at the same time, keeping their daughter with them.

Enter Rosalie McMullen. She and Mrs. Leiker had been friends for a long time. So with more than 44 years of child care experience garnered while owning and operating Good Beginnings Preschool, she was the person Mrs. Leiker turned to for advice. They began talking seriously about a joint venture in February.

Mrs. McMullen was at a transition point in her life following the death of her husband, Dennis McMullen. She wanted to slow down a little but not retire from the interaction with children that she treasures.

Mr. Leiker said the chain of events that followed has all been

in God's hands. He and his wife bought the former Living Hope Baptist Church building, 308 W. Crane, at auction on May 25. Since then they have been renovating and updating the building to suit the needs of a daycare facility and preschool. They plan to open their doors Aug. 14.

Mrs. Leiker said, "We knew we had to honor Rosalie somehow because of her commitment and loyalty to children and their families. That's why we're calling it 'Rosalie's Rainbow.' This will be her legacy to preschool education."

Words like Christian basis, stability, sense of family, innovative, and secure were used to describe how Mr. and Mrs. Leiker and Mrs. McMullen want the center to be known. They want it to be a place where children will feel nurtured, loved and safe.

Mrs. McMullen said, "I am so thrilled that Troy will be here. He will provide a wonderful male role model. I could always tell the little boys who did not have a father in the home. They would cling to Dennis whenever he came by."

The school will provide daycare, including breakfast, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weekdays. Preschool hours will be from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with Mrs. McMullen there every day. She will be the director and also act as a consultant. Mr. and Mrs. Leiker will continue the program in the afternoon.

Mrs. McMullen adheres to a schedule that starts with songs each morning. She said 70 to 80 percent of the program is based on music. Music helps teach social skills, fundamentals and academics. Sign language is also integrated into the program. She said it creates deeper paths to the brain plus it keeps "little hands" busy.

Each day there will be a story time with interactive literature. Play time will include dress-up clothes, science, art, music and movement. The large outdoor area has the potential for a log cabin, bicycle paths, a garden, an outside art center and even an atrium.

As a licensed daycare Rosalie's Rainbow has to meet state guidelines for menus and snacks. The facility is licensed for 12 children,

ages 18 months to 11 years. However, the goal is to expand to a child-care center serving 24 children. Mrs. Leiker said, "We will be providing a full daycare facility with the added benefit of a preschool without the extra costs."

The roomy, open interior space features a large room, painted sky blue, that will accommodate exercise, music, drama and free-play. The purple room will be for quieter activities like the library and literature center. The aqua room will double as the dining area and the art studio. The center also has a full kitchen, a sleeping room, bathroom, office and supply room.

Mrs. Leiker is the daughter of Norman and Paula Strayer, Norton. Mr. Leiker's parents are Al Leiker and Sharon Leiker, both from Norton. "Our parents have been very supportive of our plans," said Mrs. Leiker. "They helped make it possible."

You may call Rosalie's Rainbow at 785-874-9898 or e-mail them at: rosaliarainbow@hotmail.com.

An open house will be held from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Aug. 19.

## Norton hospital gets help

The Norton County Hospital has a new doctor to help out while it looks for a permanent replacement for Dr. Roy Hartley.

Dr. Brandon Jahnke is seeing patients in the Doctors Clinic in July and August. He began scheduling patients Monday.

In addition to working in the clinic, he will also be covering the hospital's emergency room.

"We welcome Dr. Jahnke and his family to Norton," said Hospital Administrator Rich Miller. "Having an additional physician is

a great asset during this period of time."

Dr. Jahnke has an undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska. He received his medical degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and has recently completed the Family Medicine Residency Program at Via Christi in Wichita.

He and his wife, Amy, have one son, Samuel.

Dr. Jahnke is with Docs Who Care.

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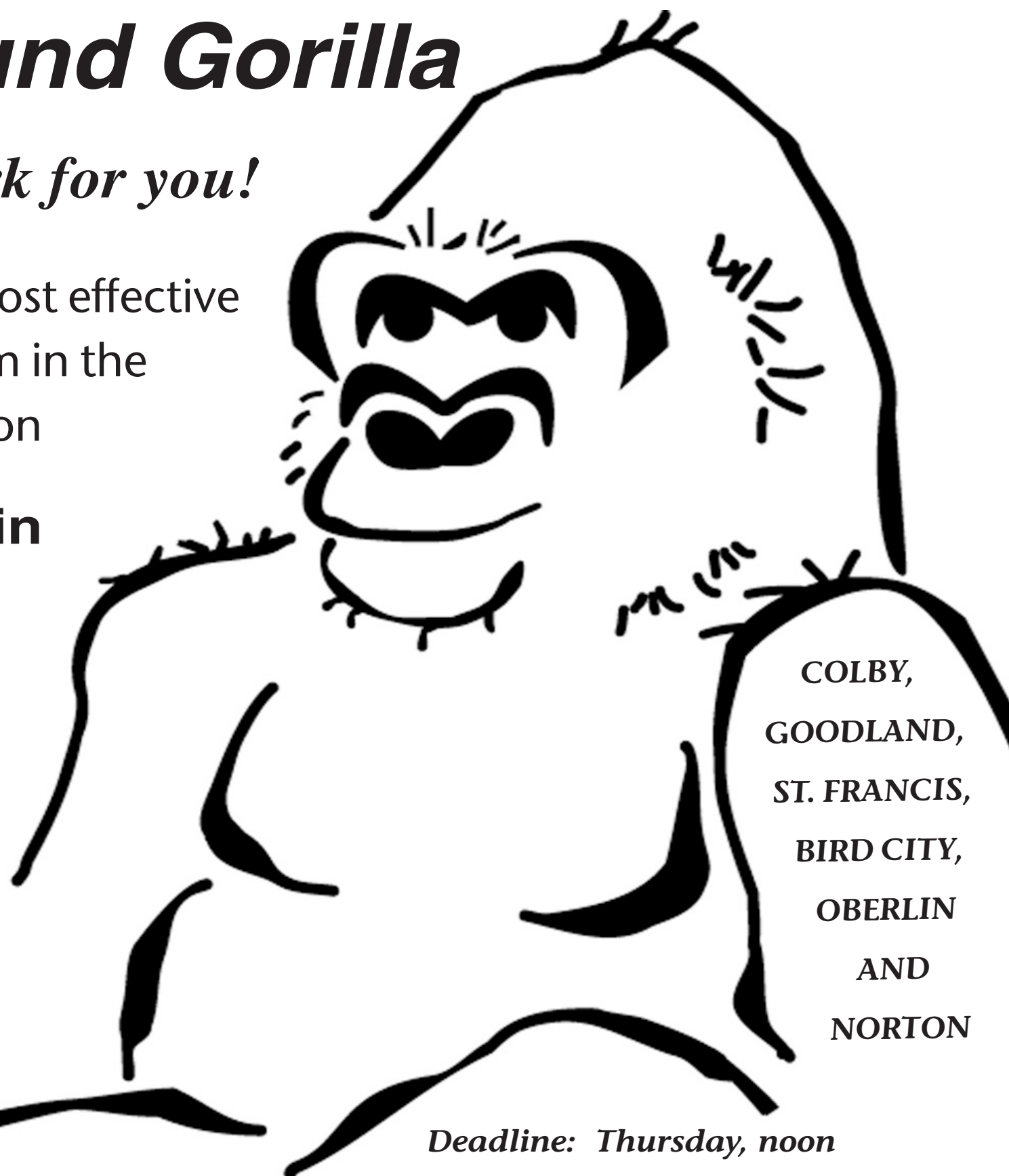
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