



PHOTO BY SAM RATHBUN

The Sharon Day Care now has a garden behind the Sharon Center School cafeteria. Children who attend the day care help maintain and pick potatoes, tomatoes, green beans and other crops.

## Helping children grow (and also herbs and veggies)

SHARON — The Sharon Day Care Center has planted a garden behind the Sharon Center School cafeteria. Planted there are potatoes, basil, oregano, parsley, green beans, tomatoes, pumpkins and sunflowers.

The garden was built as a part of the day care's curriculum to teach the children about plants, food and ecology.

Each day, the children walk out to the garden to observe the prog-

**GOOD TO KNOW: There will be an open house at the Sharon Day Care Center on Thursday, Aug. 28, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

ress of the plants, to learn a lesson about the garden such as how to use worms for composting and to pick any food that is ready.

The food that is picked is then sometimes incorporated into the meal that day. The basil might be used to make a pesto sauce for

pasta, for example.

The Day Care, which was founded 29 years ago, has a morning, day and afternoon program.

The morning is for school-aged children and runs from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., after which the

youngsters are brought to their classrooms.

The day program is a developmental program for preschool-aged children and runs roughly from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The focus of the program is teaching the children to think.

Each morning when they arrive, they are given a question of the day that they must find an answer for.

The afternoon program is for grades two to eight, and runs from the end of the school day to around 5:30 p.m.

The Day Care will hold an open house on Thursday, Aug. 28, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for anyone interested in learning more about the programs offered. Or, go to [www.sharondaycare.org](http://www.sharondaycare.org).

— Sam Rathbun