

Take advantage of the church listings to find out when and where to go.

Pages 6 & 7

Northern Valley boys win Logan Invitational. Norton boys and girls track teams compete at Oberlin.

Pages 8 & 10

Friday
May 6, 2005

Norton, Kansas
Home of Jim Rowh

Briefly

Property taxes due Tuesday

The second half of personal property and real estate taxes are due at the Norton County Treasurer's office on Tuesday.

Taxes not paid by May 10 will be charged 7 percent interest annually and, after Aug. 1, delinquent real estate notices will be published in the newspaper.

Payment stubs should accompany payment. For information, call 877-5795.

Veterans can get help Monday

A service representative from the Kansas Commission on Veterans' Affairs will be at the Norton City Building from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Monday to assist veterans and their families with matters pertaining to veterans' benefits.

Senior citizens to meet tonight

Norcatat Senior Citizens will meet at 7 p.m. Friday at the Norcatat Educational Building. Everyone is invited.

Tree limbs still being picked up

The City of Norton is still collecting tree limbs from clean-up week.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said that city crews are a bit behind getting the tree limbs because of other projects, but they will be picking them up as soon as time allows.

Tree limbs are the only thing left to be picked up. City crews won't be taking any other clean-up week debris.

Weather

Forecast:

Tonight — Breezy and partly cloudy with lows in the upper 50s. Saturday — Breezy and partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 80s.

Howell report:

Tuesday	High 68, Low 40
Wednesday	High 71, Low 48
Thursday	High 76, Low 55
Week ago	High 52, Low 30
Month ago	High 67, Low 37
Year ago	High 88, Low 50
May precipitation12 inches
Year-to-date precipitation	6.00 inches

(Readings taken at the Paul and Pat Howell farm 10 Miles North and 1/3 Mile East of Norton)

Prayer

Our Father, thank you for the assurance that you do not cause bad things to happen in our lives. Help us to trust you in whatever comes our way and to know you are with us in all circumstance. Amen

Water, sewage rates set to go up

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton City residents should expect an increase in water and sewage rates this summer.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said the city's water and wastewater plants no longer meet the requirements of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Both have to be renovated so they are up to code.

To pay for the renovations, he said the city had to take out loans, which have to be paid back from water and sewer rates.

The \$6.8 million water plant project is being paid for with money from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, two-thirds of which is a loan and the other one-third a

grant.

The wastewater project is estimated to cost \$3.2 million and is being paid for with money from the state revolving loan fund.

Mr. Lawson said there were five ideas for water that the city had to choose from where either the base rate or the usage rate or both were increased.

The base rate covers 200 cubic feet of water, while the usage rate is a certain amount for every 100 cubic feet of water after the original 200.

Idea 1, he said, wouldn't change the \$7.20 base rate, but the usage rate would change from 74 cents/100 cubic feet to \$2.49/100 cubic feet, a 236 percent increase. He said with this plan, large indus-

trial customers would suffer the most.

Idea 2, he said, the usage rate would stay the same, while the base rate would go from \$7.20 to \$26.43, a 267 percent increase. People who have fixed incomes, which, he said, is pretty much everybody, would suffer the most with this scenario.

Idea 3 would give the base rate a 63 percent increase to \$12 and the usage rate a 178 percent increase to \$2.06/100 cubic feet. Once again, the large industrial customers would suffer the most and the base rate wouldn't cover the targeted amount needed.

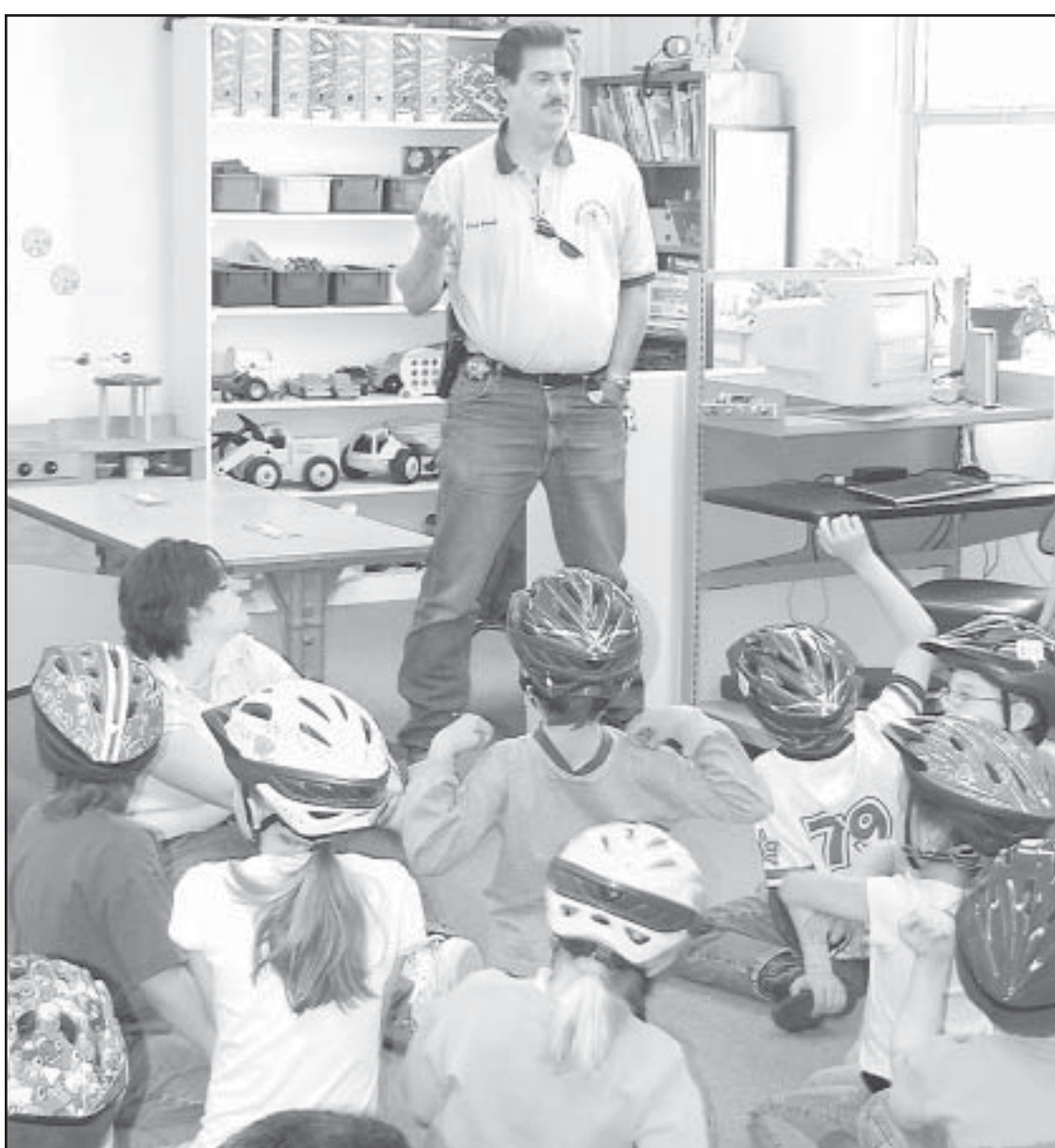
Idea 4, which is the one the city accepted, changes the base rate to \$16.82, a 134 percent increase, and the usage rate

to \$1.62/100 cubic feet, a 119 percent increase. Mr. Lawson said this scenario is best for both high usage customers and those on a fixed income, who can control their usage.

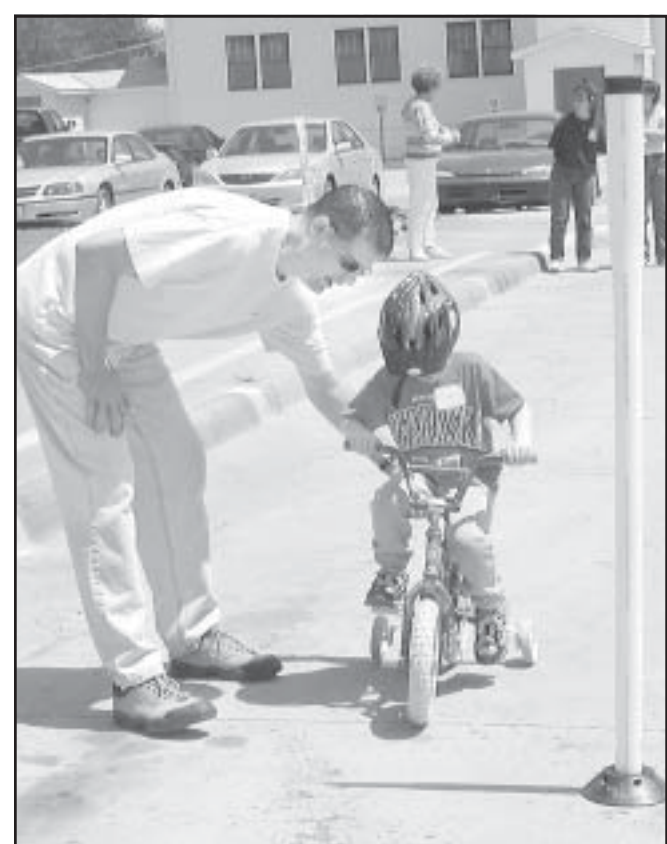
Idea 5 would increase the base rate to \$21.62, a 200 percent increase, and the usage rate to \$1.18/100 cubic feet, a 59 percent increase. This, he said, is bad for fixed income users. The industrial customers would suffer a little, but not as much as the residential customers.

"We tried to go with what was the most fair for everyone," he said. "Nothing fits everybody, but we tried to make it as easy as we could on people."

(Continued on Page 5)



Kindergartners, first and second graders at Northern Valley Grade School learned about the importance of bicycle safety Tuesday. After watching a video on safety, the students and Deputy Rich Wenzl (above) talked about what they should do while riding a bike. Once outside, Deputy Scott Bohl (below) checked the kids' bikes to make sure everything was as it should be. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



Officer Toby Kuhn helps a kindergartner navigate his bike around a pole during one of the safety activities.

Bicycle rodeo is a hit with helmets

By VERONICA MONIER

Kids all around the area learned about bicycle safety this week during a bicycle rodeo.

Every kindergartner, first grader and second grader in Norton, Phillips and Graham counties received a free helmet and instructions on how to ride a bicycle safely.

Officer Toby Kuhn, a board member of the Chaston VanDerVeen Memorial Bicycle Safety Program, said over 400 helmets were given away. About 120 of those went to Eisenhower students and another 38 went to Northern Valley students.

After the students received tips from local law enforcement, they put on their new helmets and rode their bikes in different activities designed to reinforce what they just learned about safety. All of the students were able to participate since Mr. VanDerVeen and the police and sheriff's department brought spare bikes to ride.

Local law enforcement and members of the safety program board went to Eisenhower Elementary Monday and then to Northern Valley Tuesday. They went back to Eisenhower Thursday to catch the kids they missed, so everyone could get a helmet and safety tips.

At Northern Valley, Jay VanDerVeen, Chaston's grandfather, started the program by talking about his grandson and how important it is to wear a helmet when riding a bike.

(Continued on Page 5)

City appoints new attorney

By VERONICA MONIER

Norton has a new city attorney.

At Wednesday's city council meeting, Chuck Worden was appointed to fill the vacant position of city attorney. The post was held by Karen Griffiths but, when Mrs. Griffiths was elected as the county attorney, the council felt being both city and county attorney was a conflict of interest.

Councilwoman Donna Foley asked if the council was going to offer Mr. Worden the same compensation as it did Mrs. Griffiths.

Mayor David Corns said it was the council's decision.

City Administrator Rob Lawson said, right now, the retainer paid the city attorney is \$776.50, plus hourly billing for whatever did not fall within the scope of

the job description.

Mrs. Foley asked what Mr. Worden's hourly rate was.

Mr. Worden said he would bill the same rate as the previous attorney. He said the standard fee for such a position was \$120, but he was okay with \$100 per hour.

He said he wouldn't be billing the city for any work unless it was previously agreed upon with either the council or the city administrator.

Mr. Corns said the salary could be talked about more at Finance Committee and it could be decided at a later time.

Mrs. Foley asked about Mr. Worden's experience.

Mr. Worden said he had been a district judge for 22 years and is the city attorney for Agra.

(Continued on Page 5)

Call center could come here

By CYNTHIA HAYNES

Would it be a good idea for Norton to have an in-bound call center, where people answer questions and solve problems for those trying to reach help lines for a Fortune 500 company?

C.W. Feril and Lisa Cornwell of Innovative Research and Consulting out of St. John would like to think so. On Monday, they visited with Norton County commissioners about the work they have been doing on a program called Revitalizing Rural America.

The couple were invited to the meeting by Commissioner Leroy Lang, who had heard their presentation and wanted them to give commissioners Dean Kruse and John Miller their informa-

tion and answer questions.

Mr. Feril said that he and Ms. Cornwell find communities that want feasibility studies done to see if they have what it takes to set up an in-bound call center.

"This isn't telemarketing," Ms. Cornwell said. "These are only in-bound phone calls."

The feasibility study, Ms. Cornwell said, involves a marketing plan, surveys of businesses and individuals, recruitment of possible workers and studies of the economy, schools and demographics of the area.

This study costs about \$15,000, Mr. Feril said.

(Continued on Page 5)

Call center could cost county

(Continued from Page 1)
When the study is completed, the work is turned over to another company, which comes to town and gathers local investors for the project.
Ms. Cornwell said local government isn't asked to put up any money or provide any help and investors aren't asked for money until there is a chance of repayment.
"You need to know where that money comes from but don't need to put it up front until you have a contract with a corporate investor," Ms. Cornwell said.
The idea, Mr. Feril said, is to lure the corporations, which have been sending their in-bound phone calls overseas, to

go into rural areas of America instead.
Since companies can save up to 50 percent overseas and only about 20 percent in rural areas, there has to be something else to lure them, Mr. Feril said.
That something is good public relations.
Corporations will want to show what good citizens they are with commercials and other ways of showing that they are helping rural America.
"A good thing about bringing in Kansas is we don't have a lot of the accents they have in the south and elsewhere," Mr. Feril said.
In metropolitan areas, it is costing companies \$18 to \$20 an hour to have people answering their

phones but turnover rates are still very high, he said.
The average pay for this type of job in rural areas is \$8 to \$10 with benefits," Ms. Cornwell said.
"We want to enhance the community, not upset and take jobs away from the nursing homes and others," she explained.
If a call center has 20 seats it would employ 30 to 40 people, Mr. Feril said, and that means that there would have to be 80 applicants for the jobs.
The cost to set up a 20 seat center would be about \$10,000 per seat, he said, which would include a building, training and computers.
All that money would have to be raised locally, he said.

Council appoints new attorney

(Continued from Page 1)
The council appointed Mr. Worden as city attorney with a 3-1 vote, with Mrs. Foley voting no.
In other business, the council:
• Heard Councilwoman Elaine Mann take the oath of office for her Ward II seat. Mrs. Mann was gone at the last meeting when the other council members and mayor were sworn in.
• Heard Mr. Worden take the oath of office as city attorney.
• Waived the formal second reading of Ordinance No. 1544, relating to the times and dates allowed for the shooting or firing of fireworks.
• Set a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 16, to review the water plant and wastewater plant renovation plans.
• Authorized an ordinance to be prepared, dealing with an increase in the base rate and usage rate of water to pay for the water plant renovations. The base rate for 200 cubic feet of water will go from \$7.20 to \$16.82 and the usage rate will go from 74 cents to \$1.62 for every 100 cubic feet over the original 200 cubic feet covered by the

base rate.
• Authorized an ordinance to be prepared, dealing with an increase in the base rate and usage rate of wastewater to pay for wastewater plant renovations. The base rate will go from \$4 to \$13.25 for 200 cubic feet of winter water usage and the usage rate will increase from 56 cents to \$1.53 per 100 cubic feet over the 200 cubic feet covered by the base rate.
• Agreed to let the hospital use the swimming pool for water aerobic classes this summer.
• Adjusted the pay scale after reviewing salary surveys from cities similar in size to Norton. The pay scale adjustment hasn't been done for four years, when usually it is done every two. The adjust-

ments will take effect on each employee's anniversary date.
• Asked the staff to get sealed bids for the sale of the 1999 Ford Crown Victoria patrol car. The bids are due by 4 p.m. on June 1.
• Approved the low bid of \$16,210 from Farm Implement and Supply Co. of Plainville for a 2005 New Holland LS150 Skid Steer.
• Heard from Mr. Corns that in March the city received \$14,329 in city sales tax receipts and \$10,768 in county sales tax receipts for a total of \$25,097 and a year-to-date total of \$113,344. Last year at this time, the city had collected \$21,639 with the year-to-date total at \$111,814.

New scholarship available to Norton students

A new scholarship has been established for Norton Community High School graduates, who plan to attend a four-year Kansas college.
Three former classmates from the graduating class of 1955, have made three scholarships available this year. The BWB Scholarship is

named for Jon Boxler, Richard Wiltfong and J. Morgan Bishop.
The men graduated from Kansas colleges and believe the education provided by those institutions was the key to success in their careers. They said they hope their scholarships will assist students gain the benefits of higher educa-

tion.
The three scholarship recipients will be named at the awards assembly at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 12, in the high school gymnasium.
Jennifer Hauser, high school counselor, assisted the scholarship donors in selecting the deserving students.

Helmets get students excited about safety

(Continued from Page 1)
"Helmets can save your life," he said. "Obeying traffic laws can definitely save your life."
Sheriff's Deputy Scott Bohl told the kids that they not only need to make sure their helmets are on, but they also need to make sure their shoe laces are tied and check their bikes, making sure the chains and handlebars are both tight.
The students also watched a video and then reviewed hand signals.
Sheriff's Deputy Rich Wenzl said everyone riding a bike needs to follow the rules of the road, including looking both ways at an intersection, stopping for stop signs, and cars, and slowing down at yield signs.
"You guys have to be responsible when you're on your bike," he said.

Other law enforcement personnel involved with the program in Almena were Sheriff Troy Thomson, Deputy Scott Bohl, Norton Police officers Pat Morel, Brian Shannon, and Asa Stiles, and Kansas Highway Patrol troopers Doug Griffiths and Charles Boydston.
In addition to the helmets, each child received a certificate of participation, a water bottle, an activity book and a junior police badge plus a coupon from Pizza Hut for a personal pan pizza.
Officer Kuhn said they hope to do the program every year, giving helmets to those kids who don't have one or haven't participated in the program before.
"It's important," he said. "And, it's a good program."

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NORTON Senior High:
Monday — Varsity golf at Phillipsburg, 10 a.m.; Jay Singers, a.p.
Tuesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; cheer, a.p.; boys basketball meeting, cafeteria, a.p.; FCCLA board, 7 p.m.
Wednesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Students Against Drunk Driving, a.p.
Thursday — Awards assembly, 1 p.m.; League golf at Phillipsburg, 3 p.m.
Friday — Jazz, a.p.; early dismissal, high school only, 2:45 p.m.; league track, here, 3 p.m.
Sunday — High school artist of the year;
Next Monday — Senior finals; KAY Board, a.p.; Jay Singers, a.p.; Regional golf, here.
Junior High:
Monday — KAYs, a.p.
Tuesday — Track at WaKeeney, 10 a.m.
Wednesday — Faculty meeting, 7:45 a.m.
Eisenhower:
Monday — Celebrate July birthdays; instrument display, cafeteria, 4-5:30 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Tuesday — Kindergarten vocal concert, cafeteria, 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday — First-grade CBMs, a.m.; fifth and sixth grade band concert practice, East Campus gym, 8:45-10 a.m.; sixth grade to visit junior high, 2:30 p.m.; faculty meeting, 3:40 p.m.
Thursday — Fifth- and sixth-grade band concert practice, East Campus gym, 8:45-10 a.m.; Grade three and four meeting, 3:40 p.m.; fifth- and sixth-grade band concert, East Campus, 7 p.m.
Friday — Kindergarten screening, all day; second-grade field trip to Colby; sixth-grade field trip to

Hays.
Next Monday — Celebrate August 1-18 birthdays; Site Council, 7 p.m.
All Schools:
Monday — Board of Education meeting, Alice Tweed office, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday — Curriculum Coordinating Council, Alice Tweed office, 7:30 a.m.
Eisenhower Menus:
Monday — Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, rosy applesauce, milk; Lunch: Ham and cheese, homemade bun, pepper strips, pork and beans, pears, milk
Tuesday — Breakfast: Warm cereal with toppers, grape juice, milk; Lunch: Beef burrito, green beans, rosy applesauce, blonde brownies, milk
Wednesday — Breakfast: Ham, hashbrowns, peaches, apple juice, milk; Lunch: Corn dog, tater tots, baby carrots, fruit cocktail, cookie, milk
Thursday — Breakfast: Pumpkin bread, rosy applesauce, milk; Lunch: Hamburger casserole, celery, pears, French bread, milk
Friday — Breakfast: Canadian bacon/cheese biscuit, apple juice, milk; Lunch: BBQ beef, homemade bun, French fries, dill spear, banana pudding, milk
High School Menus:
Monday — Breakfast: Waffle stix, fruit or juice, or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Chicken fry patty, potatoes/country-style gravy, broccoli and cauliflower salad, peaches, or chef salad, milk
Tuesday — Breakfast: Granola snack bar, fruit or juice, or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Pizza, salad, pears, baked dessert, or chef salad, milk
Wednesday — Breakfast: Blueberry bread, fruit or juice, or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Baked

ham, scalloped potatoes, carrots, fruit salad, or chef salad, milk
Thursday — Breakfast: Long Johns, fruit or juice, or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Assorted sandwiches, green beans, chocolate pudding delight, or chef salad, milk
Friday — Breakfast: Breakfast casserole, fruit or juice, or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Macaroni and cheese, green beans, coleslaw, pumpkin bars, or chef salad, milk
NORTHERN VALLEY
Monday — First-grade field trip to Norton County Hospital, 1 p.m.; high school track meet at Hill City, 4 p.m.; school board meeting, Almena, conference room, 8 p.m.
Tuesday — Seventh- and eighth-grade spring band and vocal concert, 7:30 p.m., Long Island gym; new web-site training, high school computer lab, 9 a.m.; high school cheerleading meeting.
Wednesday — Kindergarten class to tour McDonald's in Norton, 2 p.m.; grade 5-8 reading party during lunch hour at Long Island
Thursday — Sixth-eighth-grade track meet at Logan, 3 p.m.; high school Cheyenne Conference track meet at Logan, 3 p.m.
Friday — First- and second-grade field trip to Phillipsburg, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; high school Forensics Show, 7 p.m., high school auditorium, Almena.
Breakfast/Lunch Menus:
Monday — Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, toast, hashbrowns, sausage links, cereal; Lunch: hamburger pizza, salad, green beans, banana cream pie
Tuesday — Breakfast: Banana muffin, ham, fruit, cereal; Lunch: Ham-n-scalloped potatoes, peas, strawberry shortcake
Wednesday — Breakfast: sau-

sage and cheese bagel, juice, cereal; Lunch: Sierra chicken, salad, California blend vegetables, chocolate cake
Thursday — Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, juice, cereal; Lunch: Hamburger, potato salad, pork-n-beans, honey peanut butter fingers
Friday — Breakfast: Monkey bread, sausage patty, juice, cereal; Lunch: Burritos, salad, corn, lemon pie
JENNINGS
Monday — High school track at Hill City, 4 p.m.
Wednesday — Boys physicals in Oberlin, 7 p.m.; board meeting, 6:30 p.m.; seniors arrive home
Thursday — Junior high track at Logan, 2 p.m.; high school track, Cheyenne Conference, Logan, 3 p.m.
Saturday — Graduation, 2:30 p.m.
Lunch Menus:
Daily breakfast menu: toast, cereal, milk or juice
Monday — Hamburgers, Doritos, green beans, salad bar, fruit cocktail
Tuesday — Roast beef, potatoes/gravy, peas, salad bar, tropical fruit
Wednesday — Club subs, Doritos, baked beans, salad bar, Mandarin oranges
Thursday — Ham, au gratin potatoes, green beans, salad bar, cookies
Friday — Super nachos, refried beans, salad bar, pears

Water, sewer rate will pay for renovations

(Continued from Page 1)
As far as the sewer rate increase, Mr. Lawson said there were three options.
All three raise the base rate from \$4/200 cubic feet of water to \$13.25. With the first, the base rate would cover 200 cubic feet and the usage rate would be \$1.53/200 cubic feet. The second would cover 300 cubic feet and the usage rate would be \$2.03/300 cubic feet, while the third would cover 400 cubic feet with a usage rate of \$3.04/400 cubic feet.
The city, he said, decided to go with the first because it would be

less confusing for everyone to keep both the water and wastewater at 200 cubic feet.
He said the city's goal is to make the rate changes effective July 1. If this happens, customers will see it on their August bill.
Mr. Lawson said the ordinance dealing with the rate increases will follow the three-reading rule so that anyone who has questions can talk to the council or himself. He said if people don't want to go to a council meeting, they could call or stop by the city office and talk to him.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Estate of Roy B. Strickland

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, April 29, May 6, 13, 2005. (3T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
In the Matter of the Estate of **ROY B. STRICKLAND, Deceased.**
Case No. 2003-PR-12
NOTICE OF HEARING
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are hereby notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Ray G. Dreher, duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator, DBN of the Estate of Roy B. Strickland, Deceased, praying that his acts be approved; that his account be settled and allowed, that the will be construed and the estate be assigned to the persons entitled thereto; that fees and expenses be allowed; that the costs be determined and ordered

paid; that the administration of the estate be closed; that the Administrator be discharged and that he be released from further liability.
You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 24th day of May, 2005, at 1:30 o'clock P.M. of said day, in said Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.
Ray G. Dreher
Administrator, DBN
R. Douglas Sebelius #09157
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
105 South Norton Street
P.O. Box 10
Norton, Kansas 67654-0010
Attorney for Petitioner

Thank You

First I want to thank Dr. McKinley for his good instructions to get me feeling better and to the nursing personnel for carrying out his instructions. Everyone, and I do mean everyone, has been wonderful. Also thanks to Dr. McKinley for bringing his children.
I want to thank the staff at Norton County Hospital, the dietary department for the good food served attractively, housekeeping department and the maintenance department for keeping the machinery operating—they worked evenings and weekends. Thank you to all the office personnel, x-ray department and the lab department.
Thanks to my wonderful daughter Beth and to my wonderful son Russel and wife Sue. To my grandchildren for books and chocolates and to my great-grandchildren for their visits, hugs and the great moments.
To my brother Dale and his wife Katherine and my sister Nina and her son Tom for their many visits. Thanks to Kirk and Kim Kasson and children for visits. Thank you to so many, for cards, flowers, food, telephone calls, visits from nieces and nephews and to everyone who remembered me in any way. My sincere thanks. May God bless each of you.
Reva Smith

Bulletin Board

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Your Guide to Services Available in Northwest Kansas

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