

(Continued from Page 1)
much this was going to cost.

Ms. Brown said that for a year of services, they would charge \$1,000 to get grants for the county's emergency medical service. They also charge fees that equal 4 percent of the grant, which is included with the grant application. However, if the grant won't cover the 4 percent, then the county has to pay it.

Ambulance Director Ruth Schilling said the \$1,000 covers more than just the building grant. She said they will also work on getting the service grants for equipment and training.

After more discussion, the commission decided to hire Blue Sky Ink for the emergency medical service. County Counselor Doug Sebelius will review the contract and give it to Mr. Miller to sign.

In other business, the commission:

- Heard from Ms. Schilling that they have five new students going

to training in Phillipsburg. She will be asking them to sign a contract saying that they will volunteer with the service for a year in return for the county paying the training fees.

- Held a 5-minute closed session for non-elected personnel.

- Donated \$200 to Leadership Norton County.

- Learned from Sheriff Troy Thomson that the county received a grant for \$195,583 so that the sheriff's office can become Phase II compliant with the 911-enhancement project. The update isn't mandatory yet, but it will be in the future. Sheriff Thomson said the grant will cover the entire cost of the update.

However, if the commission wants geographic information systems (GIS) mapping, it will cost an additional \$42,500. The GIS mapping would be able to be used by both emergency personnel and the appraiser's office.

The commission said they

needed to sit down with Sheriff Thomson and Appraiser Alan Hale before Feb. 26 and make a decision on whether or not to do the mapping.

- Adopted Resolution 2007-04, to add a special question to the ballot at the next November general election. The resolution will put to vote the question of whether or not to allow bars/restaurants to sell individual alcoholic drinks even if they don't have food sales. The current law says that 30 percent of the business' gross receipts have to come from food sales.

- Met with Brent Gardner, with Vision Care, about a vision benefit for county employees. No decision has been made by the commission.

- Received reports from Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Brannan, Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald, and Noxious Weed Supervisor Reggie Beckman.

Norton women's club to meet Feb. 15

The Norton After-5 Club invites all area women to attend the February dinner and meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 15 at the Town and Country Kitchen, east US Highway 36.

The cost for the dinner meeting is \$7 per person. Free babysitting is available. For reservations and cancellations, contact Joan Knoll 877-3042 by Tues., Feb. 13.

"A Storybook Affair" is the theme for the evening. "It's A Small World", presented by Linda Martin, Newton, Iowa, will be the special feature for the evening. Ms. Martin will share her International doll collection.

Ms. Martin, also the guest speaker, will share about piecing together the puzzle pieces of life shattered by rejection and how eventually "happily ever after"

became a certainty in "From Fantasy to Reality". Ms. Martin also enjoys music and computer graphics.

The Norton After-5 Club is non-

denominational and open to all area women. Part of Stonecroft Ministries, After-5 Clubs are located throughout the United States and Canada.

Prairie Land taking over WildBlue

Nex-Tech, a subsidiary of Rural Telephone, has reached an agreement with Prairie Land Electric to assume ownership of its 96 WildBlue subscribers, effective Feb. 1.

Several years ago, the two utility providers worked through the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative to launch WildBlue Internet service via satellite, providing an alternative high-speed Internet option for customers unable to be served with

DSL, cable or wireless Internet. WildBlue Internet service provides 1.5mbps downstream speeds.

"Prairie Land Electric has decided to refocus their efforts on a number of recently acquired Aquila territories," stated Jeff Wick, Nex-Tech Chief Operating Officer. "Nex-Tech is pleased to be able to add the Prairie Land Electric WildBlue subscribers to our current customer base of WildBlue customers," he added.

Check-out day celebrates safe, affordable food

(Continued from Page 1)
percent; Indonesia, 55 percent.

Today's farmers and ranchers use precise plant nutrition management plans to increase food production while producing less waste. This translates into cleaner rivers, lakes and streams across the United States. The American Farmer and rancher have a stake in the future of America's natural resources. With more than 90 percent of America's farms and ranches operated by individuals or families, maintaining and improving our nation's natural resources is vital to keeping the business in the family for generations to come. Using precise plant nutrition and crop health practices and tools helps today's farmers produce more food with less seed and fewer inputs.

Eating fruits and vegetables does not have to be expensive. New research from the Agriculture Department shows that consumers can meet the recommended three servings of fruit and four servings of vegetables daily for about 64 cents.

Fresh produce can be very affordable. In fact, 63 percent of fruits and 57 percent of vegetables are most affordable when purchased fresh, according to Agriculture Department studies.

More than 24 million American workers (17 percent of the total U.S. workforce) produce, process, sell and trade the nation's food and fiber. But only 4.6 million of those people live on farms — slightly less than 2 percent of the total U.S. population.

Farmers and ranchers receive only 22 cents out of every dollar

spent on food at home and away from home. The rest goes for costs beyond the farm gate: wages and materials for production, processing, marketing, transportation and distribution. In 1980, farmers and ranchers received 31 cents.

In 2005, \$62 billion worth of American agricultural products were exported around the world.

Internet video will cover tip reporting

The Internal Revenue Service will be broadcasting a free program over the Internet about simplifying tip reporting on Tuesday.

A panel of experts will be discussing the Attributed Tip Income Program (ATIP), which is a new program designed to improve tip-income reporting. The new program helps employers and employees in the food and beverage industry by reducing industry

record-keeping burdens, simplifying enrollment requirements, and promoting tip-reporting on Federal income tax returns.

To view the show, please go to www.taxtalktoday.tv and register. The show airs at 1 p.m. Questions can be submitted during the live broadcast.

The program will be available to view online 24 hours after the live broadcast as well.

Valentine's Day is Just Right Around the Corner...

Stop by **Rita's Beauty Salon** and Pick Up a **Gift Certificate** for Your Sweetheart!

Rita's Beauty Salon
909 Pratt, Alma, Kansas
Phone: 785-669-2328




Attention Merchants

SPECIAL SECTIONS COMING UP:

- National FFA Week — (Norton and Northern Valley)
- Regional and State Wrestling

For help with your advertising needs please give Lisa a call
785-877-3361
E-mail to lhenderson@mailhost.nwkansas.com

THE NORTON TELEGRAM
"Service is what we're all about"

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NORTON Senior High:

Saturday — ACT Test Date; State Scholar's Bowl at Hutchinson Trinity High School, 11:30 a.m.; Norton Community High School Forensics Tournament, 7:30 a.m.; Junior Varsity Wrestling at Colby, 9 a.m.; FFA Meats Judging at Kensington, 9 a.m.; SAC Snowball Dance, Junior High Gym, 8-11 p.m.

National FCCLA Week, February 11 thru 17

Grade 11 Writing Assessments, February 12-16

Monday — JAY Singers, a.p.

Tuesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; FCCLA Board Meeting, 7 p.m.; Basketball vs. Hoxie (T) 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday — Forensics at Dighton, 8 a.m.; FFA AG Mechanics Contest at Goodland, 8 a.m. CST

Thursday — JAY Singers, 7:30 a.m.; KAYS, a.p.; Basketball vs Ellis (H), Senior Night, 5 p.m.

Friday — Faculty Meeting, 8 a.m.; Regional Wrestling Tournament, Norton, 2 p.m. Norton Community High School dismissed at 11:30 a.m. Breakfast served; Lunch not served. Buses run at normal time (3:30 p.m.)

Saturday — Regional Wrestling Tournament, 11 a.m.; Forensics, 7:30 a.m.

National FFA Week, February 18-24

Council unhappy about cat situation

(Continued from Page 1)
directed the administrator to talk to the animal control officer about what action can be taken.

- Learned Norton Lions Club is proceeding with plans for a walking trail through Elmwood Park.

- Learned Norton Horse Council wants to build a 20 X 30 building at the equestrian facility to house restrooms and a women's dressing room.

- Accepted the Norton Horse Council's calendar of events for 2007.

The next council meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at the city office building.

Next Monday — JAY Singers, a.p.; Basketball vs Plainville, 5 p.m. (H)

Next Tuesday — JAY Singers, 7:30 a.m.; National Honor Society, a.p.; Basketball vs. Colby (T), 4:30 p.m.

Junior High:

Tuesday — KAYS, a.p.

Wednesday — Faculty Meeting, 7:45 a.m.; Norton County Spelling Bee at Northern Valley High School, 4 p.m.

Thursday — Wrestling at Hill City and also with Trego, 5 p.m.;

Friday — Regional Wrestling Tournament, Norton, 2 p.m. Norton Junior High School dismissed at 11:30 a.m.; Breakfast served, Lunch not served. Buses run at normal time, 3:30 p.m.

Eisenhower:

Tuesday — Kindergarten Valentine's parties, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday — Early Childhood-6 Valentine's parties, 2:30 p.m.; Team meeting, 3:40 p.m.; QPA Accreditation visit at USD Offices, 2 p.m.

Thursday — Fifth-Sixth Grade Level Meeting, 3:40 p.m.

Next Monday — Fifth-Sixth Vocal Concert, East Campus, 7:30 p.m.

All Schools:

Monday — Board of Education meeting, Unified Office, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday — Curriculum Council, Unified Office, 7:30 a.m.

Friday — NCKSEC Superintendent Meeting at Glade, 10 p.m.

Saturday — State Piano Festival, Wichita, TBA

High School Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Pancake and sausage on a stick with syrup, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Burrito, shredded cheese, lettuce and chopped tomato, Sopa de Fideo, hot roll, peaches or chef salad, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Pancake with syrup, bacon, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Ham and cheese rollup, corn, vegetable salad, strawberry shortcake or chef salad, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Breakfast Quesadilla, hash brown patty, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Ground beef gravy with whipped potatoes, carrots, peaches, hot roll or chef salad, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Hot cereal with toppings, fruit or juice or

cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Mr. Rib sandwich, lettuce and tomato, corn, peaches or chef salad, milk

Friday — Breakfast: Biscuit and sausage, bagel with cream cheese, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Toasted cheese sandwich, tomato soup with crackers, combo salad, Jell-O with whipped toppings, or chef salad, milk

Eisenhower Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, rosy applesauce, milk; Lunch: Taco crunch, corn, tossed salad, chocolate cake, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Scrambled eggs/ham, pears, milk; Lunch: Ham and cheese, homemade bun, pepper strips, pork and beans, pears, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Cereal with toppers, grape juice, milk; Lunch: chicken supreme, green beans, baby carrots, fruit basket upset, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Chilled yogurt, bagel with cream cheese, milk; Lunch: Ham and beans, celery stick, cornbread, applesauce Jell-O, cookie, milk

Friday — Breakfast: Fruit crisps, grape juice, milk; Lunch: BBQ beef, homemade bun, potato salad, dill spear, banana pudding, milk

NORTHERN VALLEY

Monday — Day at the Capitol in Topeka; Post Prom meeting in the lunchroom in Alma, 7 p.m.; School Board meeting in the conference room in Alma

Tuesday — Bus Drivers meeting in the conference room at Alma; High School Pep Rally in the big gym at Alma, 3:05 p.m.; High School Basketball vs Victoria in Alma, Senior Parent Night, No Junior Varsity Girls - 4 (8 minute) quarters for Junior Varsity Boys, 4:45 p.m.

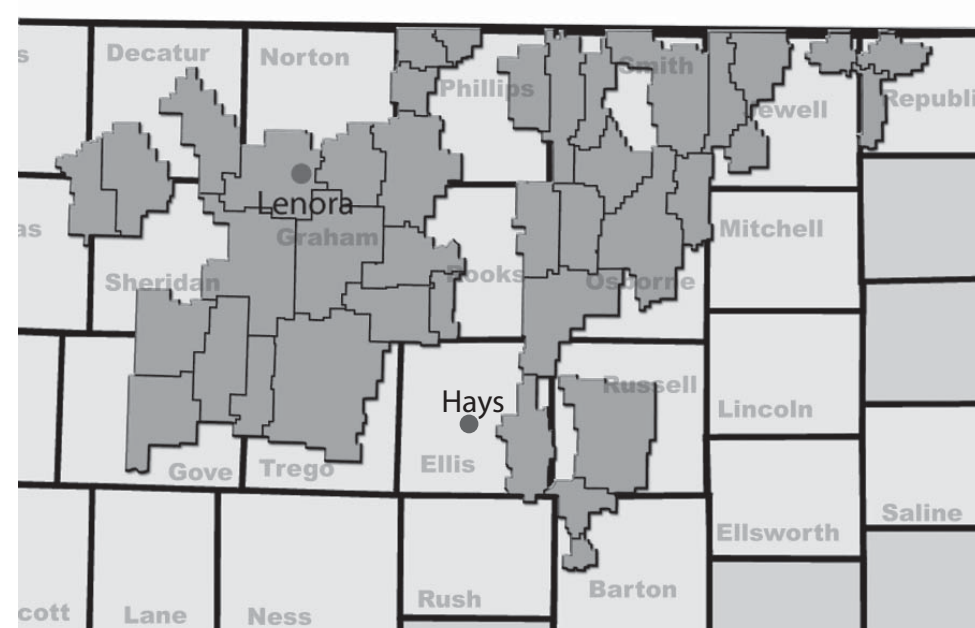
Wednesday — Spring Area meeting and District Ag Mechanics at Goodland, 9 a.m.; Kindergarten through Sixth Grade Valentine Parties, 2:30 p.m.; Norton County Spelling Bee in the High School Auditorium in Alma, 4 p.m.

Thursday — GNEC Vocal Clinic at Agra, 1 p.m.; Practice at 1:00 p.m./Concert at 7 p.m.

Friday — NCKSEC Superintendents Meeting at Glade; High School Basketball vs Western Plains at Ransom, 4:45 p.m.

PROPERTY TAX REPORT

At Rural Telephone and Nex-Tech, we aim to be good corporate citizens of the region. We understand the need for property taxes to help support our schools and other public resources. For the year 2006, we paid **OVER \$3.2 MILLION** in property taxes in the following counties.



These property taxes, together with the dollars we spend on services, payroll and upgrading our plant facilities, help support the local economy.

We would like to thank those of you who continue to put your trust and hard-earned dollars into products and services from Rural Telephone and Nex-Tech. We realize you have a choice when making purchases such as directory yellow page advertising and other telecommunication products and services. When you choose Rural Telephone and Nex-Tech, you keep your dollars in the local economy to support **YOUR SCHOOLS** and **YOUR PUBLIC RESOURCES**.