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NATIONAL
SEXUAL ASSAULT
AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

## Sexual assault a growing epidemic

By ELLY GRIFFIN
• Leader & Times

According to the Centers for Disease Control, in the United States, one in five women and one in 71 men have been raped in their lifetime, and an estimated 1.3 million women are raped annually, classified each day in the United States.

The Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence says that approximately 300,000 women and 40,000 men will be raped in their lifetime and many more Kansans will be sexually assaulted in other ways.

April is known as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the Liberal Area Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Center, 1111 N. Kansas, continues its work in the area, offering several different services including individual advocacy, group support, public policy advocacy and community education.

Lori Hensley, executive director of LARCDVC, said sexual assault is becoming a growing epidemic.

"Many people think that because we live in rural America, that sexual assault is not a big issue," she said. "If you would look at statistics there's probably as much or more sexual assault per capita in a rural community than there is in a large metropolitan area and that was one thing that people need to realize about is very few people that are violated by sexual assault tell it to anyone."

Kelly Hall of the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence says that approximately 70.5 percent of Kansas rape offenders were known by their victims. However, Hensley says that there is a misconception that sexual assault is a stranger crime.

"We do know from different statistics that come through law enforcement, criminal justice and the

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## GROWING TOGETHER

Community gardens cultivate more than vegetables

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## State aid increase lowers property tax request for bond

• L&T staff report

With only four days to go before the bond election, the Liberal School District has announced that, as a result, a change in the state formula for bond matching monies set today will mean the request from property taxes should be lowered as a result.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kent Hall of Liberal Education, Inc. No. 480, said the 54 percent state support from the state rather than 49 percent that

means the property tax request to fund 29 percent of the project dropped to 24 percent.

Using a home of $100,000 as a guide, the original request would have been approximately $60 per month, a 10 percent increase in the amount needed to fund the bond proposal.

The new numbers were well received at central Education.

"It will cost even less than I even thought," superintendent Paul Lathrom said. "It makes me very proud and

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## Kan. Senate passes expanded school funding plan

### Senate says 'no' to funding Common Core

By JOHN BLEAK
• Associated Press

TOPEKA — The Kansas Senate approved a Republican educational funding plan early Friday after expanding it to include a measure blocking public schools from using multistate reading and math standards.

The vote was 23-17 and sent the measure to the House, only hours after its chief author, Republican Senate President Susan Wagle, was sworn governor after the Republican governor resigned.

Before the Senate's debate began, Minority Leader Terry Bruce, of Hutchinson, said he would support the bill for the proposed record they thought it was flawed, to keep the Legislature's work alive. Bruce's comments drew boos from Senate tiers, and GOP senators broke with the party's leaders and joined Bruce in voting against the measure.

Conservative Republicans have attacked the multistate Common Core reading and mathematics standards that the State Board of Education adopted them in 2010. The measure GOP leaders added to the school finance bill would block districts from using the standards.

Opponents say the Common Core standards are akin to federal standards, which they say would take state standards out of local control.



Kansas state Sen. Forrest Knox, standing, left, an Atwood Republican, discusses his proposal aimed at blocking schools from using Common Core standards for reading and math, with Sen. Jim Denning, right, an Overland Park Republican, Thursday at the Statehouse in Topeka. Senators have added the proposal to a school funding plan. AP photo by Orlin Wagner

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## Water rates in Salina aimed at keeping precious commodity

by GORDON G. HEDDE
• Salina Journal

SALINA (AP) — Salina's water rates designed to help decrease consumption of a precious commodity.

City water customers who are unsure if Salina is serious about conserving water will get a chance to participate with the garden hose that seemed to clean up in droubs.

Salina abandoned the declining rate structure, which rewarded high use with lower cost, in favor of charging more for excess consumption.

"It used to be the more you used the less it cost you," said Martha Dreiling, water conservation. "In 2008 we changed that. Now we have a water conservation rate. Everybody gets 4 a much lower rate.

The level of usage above which the conservation rate kicks in, depends on a household's base consumption.

Here's how it works:

The base rate for households winter quarter consumption rate. For amount of water used in January, February and March, the second might be anywhere from 5,000 gallons a month to 10,000 gallons a month, depending on household and personal water use.

The customer then is allowed to use 125 percent more than that each month before forcing the conservation threshold. The higher only to users who consume 25,000 gallons a month. Those who use all customers 6,000 gallons or those who use any, say 30,000 gallons a month, will be charged for limit until they go over 6,000 gallons, not 5,000 gallons.

The rate for those who use, on average, 10,000 gallons a month during the three-month winter quarter would be able to use 12,000 gallons a month without paying the higher rate.

Any water you use over that you pay an excess use rate for "Salina said.

For that first 12,000 gallons, the rate remains at $3.40 per 1,000 gallons. That comes to $34.00 a month, plus water fees and taxes of $10.40 for a total bill of $44.40 however, watch for any for $5.40. So if the user instead consumes 13,000 gallons, that rates 1,000 gallons adds $5.40 to the bill, or $50.40.

The change attempts to encourage customers to be water aware.

"It doesn't make sense if the water is cheap that people think they're not going to be very careful with how much you use," Dreiling said. The rate structure is fair, it's personalized and I love the fact that

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