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SEXUAL ASSAULT
Sexual assault a growing epidemic

GROWING TOGETHER
Community gardens cultivate more than vegetables

LEADER & TIMES
FRIDAY APRIL 4, 2014
STATE MATCHING INCREASES TO 54%
SALES TAX REMAINS AT 2.2%
PROPERTY TAX DECREASES TO 2.4%

Kan. Senate passes expanded school funding plan

State says 'NO' to Building Common Core

By JENNIFER HANSEN

TOPEKA, Kan. — The Kansas Senate on Wednesday passed a bill that would expand the state's school funding plan, but it also rejected a measure that would have required the state to adopt a common core curriculum.

The Senate passed the funding bill, House Bill 2014-1001, by a 27-12 vote. The bill would increase the state's per-pupil expenditure by 2.4 percent over the next five years, with the increase phased in over time. It also would require the state to match local property tax revenue for schools at a rate of 54 percent, up from 50 percent.

The common core bill, House Bill 2014-1002, was rejected by a 12-17 vote. The bill would have required the state to adopt a common core curriculum by 2015. The Senate's rejection of the bill is a significant setback for the common core movement in Kansas.

The funding bill is expected to be signed into law by Governor Brown-Becker. The common core bill is expected to be reintroduced in the next session.

Water rates in Salina aimed at keeping precious commodity

By JENNIFER HANSEN

SALINA, Kan. — Salina's water utility is looking for ways to keep rates low while ensuring the city's water supply is protected. The city's water utility, Salina Water Utility, is looking for ways to keep rates low while ensuring the city's water supply is protected.

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