Sunday

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

Salina311

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR NEWS.

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Salina sales tax distribution rises 7.5% in September

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Salina Weighs Water Rate Increases to Speed Up Aging Water Line Replacements

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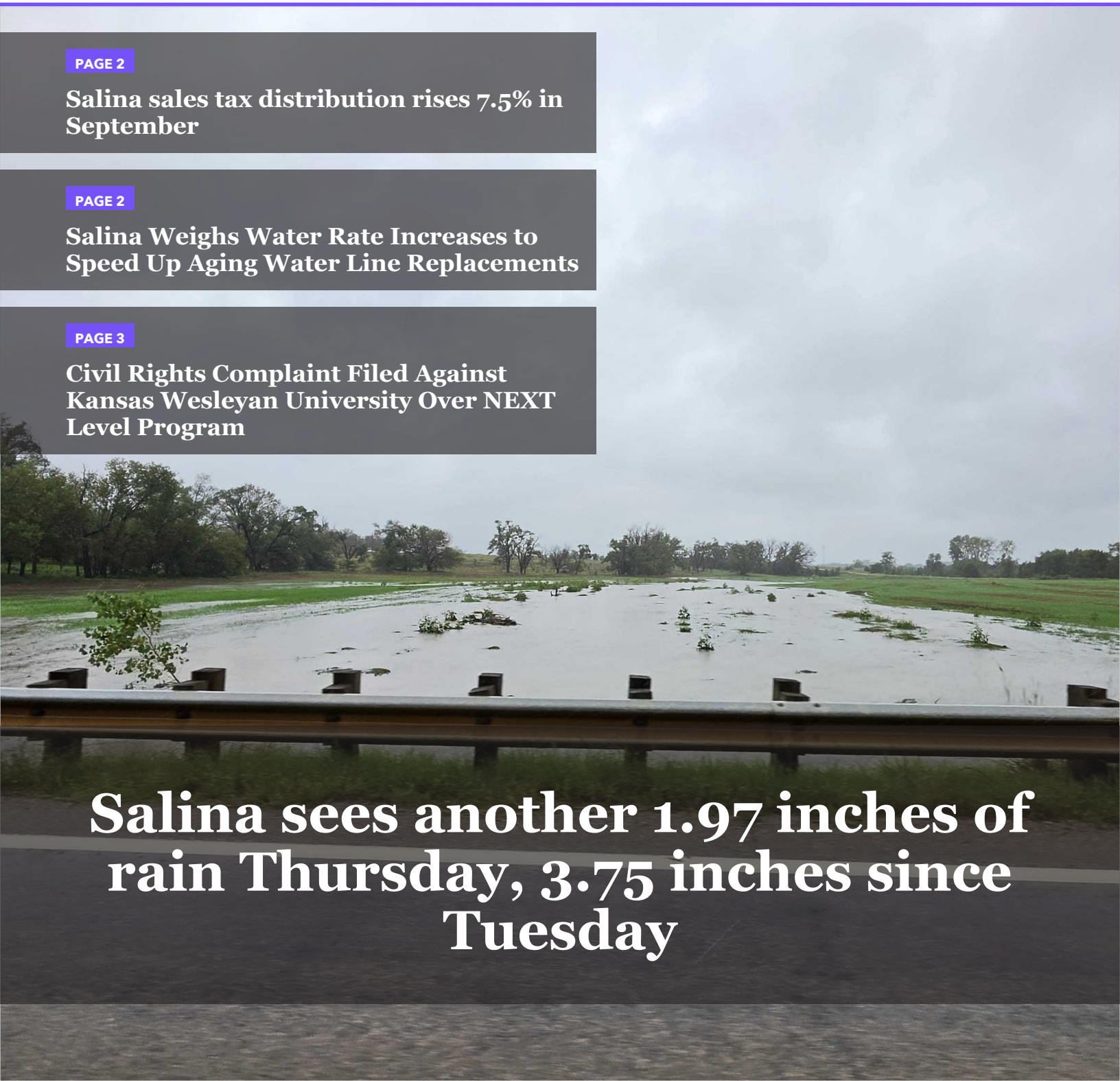
Civil Rights Complaint Filed Against Kansas Wesleyan University Over NEXT Level Program



Salina sees another 1.97 inches of rain Thursday, 3.75 inches since Tuesday

Salina sales tax distribution rises 7.5% in September

October 2, 2026

Salina received $1,610,243.02 in its September 2026 local sales tax distribution, an increase of $112,209.78, or 7.5%, from the $1,498,033.24 distributed in September 2025, according to the Kansas Department of Revenue.

The September payment reflects July collections. Local sales tax distributions trail the transactions that produced them by about two months.

Saline County received $2,026,138.32 in the same distribution, up 7.0% from $1,893,226.68 a year earlier. From January through September, Salina has received $13,577,080.90, up 5.0% from $12,935,490.89 during the same period in 2025. Saline County's year-to-date total rose to $17,074,857.60, an increase of 5.1%.

Nearby county distributions in the same report were mixed. Dickinson County received $265,735.70, down 38.6% from $432,571.89 a year earlier. Ottawa County received $42,949.34, down 37.5% from $68,733.83. Cloud County received $148,051.43, down 0.2% from $148,338.64. Ellsworth County received $66,024.01, up 0.6% from $65,639.39. McPherson County received $972,369.72, compared with $730,716.85 a year earlier; the KDOR report lists that county's percentage change as n/a after a rate change effective April 1, 2026.

City and county distributions represent their respective local sales tax levies and should not be added together or treated as portions of one payment.

Source: Kansas Department of Revenue, City/County Local Sales Tax Distributions — September 2026.

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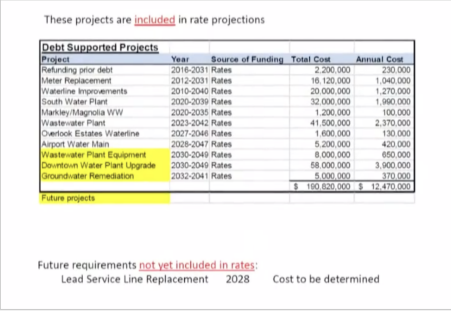
Salina Weighs Water Rate Increases to Speed Up Aging Water Line Replacements

September 29, 2026



These projects are included in rate projections

Debt Supported Projects				
Project	Year	Source of Funding	Total Cost	Annual Cost
Refunding prior debt	2016-2031	Rates	2,200,000	230,000
Meter Replacement	2012-2031	Rates	16,120,000	1,040,000
Waterline Improvements	2010-2040	Rates	20,000,000	1,270,000
South Water Plant	2020-2039	Rates	32,000,000	1,990,000
Markley/Magnolia WW	2020-2035	Rates	1,200,000	100,000
Wastewater Plant	2023-2042	Rates	41,500,000	2,370,000
Overlook Estates Waterline	2027-2046	Rates	1,600,000	130,000
Airport Water Main	2028-2047	Rates	5,200,000	420,000
Wastewater Plant Equipment	2030-2049	Rates	8,000,000	650,000
Downtown Water Plant Upgrade	2030-2049	Rates	58,000,000	3,900,000
Groundwater Remediation	2032-2041	Rates	5,000,000	370,000
			$ 190,820,000	$ 12,470,000
Future projects				

Future requirements not yet included in rates:
Lead Service Line Replacement 2028 Cost to be determined

The Salina City Commission held a study session Sept. 28 to review the city's water utility finances and consider options for accelerating the replacement of aging water lines, though no decisions were made.

Finance Director Debbie Pack told commissioners that the utility fund balance has dropped significantly in recent years, from more than $23 million in 2022 to just over $12 million at the end of 2025, as the city funded a South Water plant and a wastewater plant at roughly $40 million each. She said the current 2027 budget includes only about a 5% rate increase, which would drop the fund balance below the city's $5 million target.

Staff presented several five-year replacement plans benchmarked against an American Water Works Association recommendation of replacing 1% of a system's total mileage each year. According to figures presented, the city's system is approximately 338 miles, including about 77 miles of cast iron pipe, with roughly 65 miles of 1950s and 1960s cast iron identified as the priority for replacement.

The options ranged from Option A, replacing about 16.9 miles over five years at a cost of a little over $32 million with roughly a 49% rate increase, to Option D, replacing 50 miles over five years at a cost of approximately $121 million with about a 60% rate increase. Staff identified Option B — replacing about 25 miles over five years at a cost of roughly $48.3 million — as its preferred minimum option, noting it would complete the four identified target areas and could be designed and managed in house.

Pack said all of the A-through-D options increase the transfer to the capital reserve fund to $2.5 million a year and include $18 million in cash funding over five years. She said a one

Salina Weighs Water Rate…, continued from page 2

mill property tax raises about $570,000 a year, a 0.1% sales tax raises about $1.5 million a year, and a 1% rate increase on water, waste and sewer raises about $247,000 a year.

Deputy City Manager and staff said the commission does not need to decide today but must set 2027 rates before the end of the year. City Manager staff said they would return in about six weeks to refine the plans and gather feedback. Commissioner Gary Norris said the decision should be discussed in the community before commissioners commit to a plan.

Civil Rights Complaint Filed Against Kansas Wesleyan University Over NEXT Level Program

October 1, 2026

A national civil rights organization has filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights against Kansas Wesleyan University, alleging that the university's NEXT Level program discriminates on the basis of race.

The Equal Protection Project filed the complaint Sept. 30, 2026. The organization alleges that KWU's eligibility criteria for the NEXT Level program violate Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs receiving federal financial assistance.

According to Kansas Wesleyan's website, NEXT Level is intended for "historically underserved students" and identifies that population as including first-generation college students from low-income backgrounds and students of color. The program provides participants with peer mentors, faculty or staff advisers and other opportunities intended to support student success and retention.

The Equal Protection Project argues that the program's criteria treat students differently because students of color may qualify based on race, while other students would need to meet a separate first-generation or

ADVERTISEMENT



Local indicators tracked across Salina — each chart shows the last 90 days.

Salina Daily Average Home Asking Price

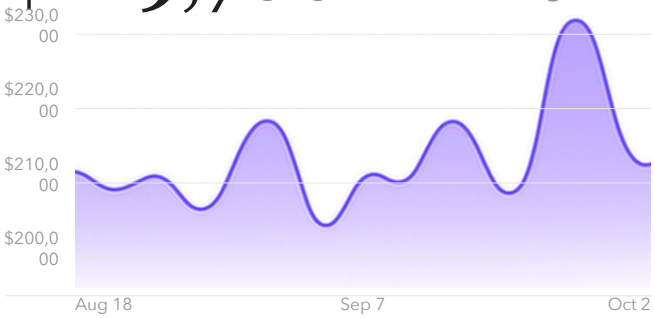
$274,877 11.8% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
$239,955	$261,492	$285,642

Salina Daily Median Home Asking Price

$219,700 4.6% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
$199,450	$215,389	$229,000

Salina Daily Median Home Asking Price per Square Foot

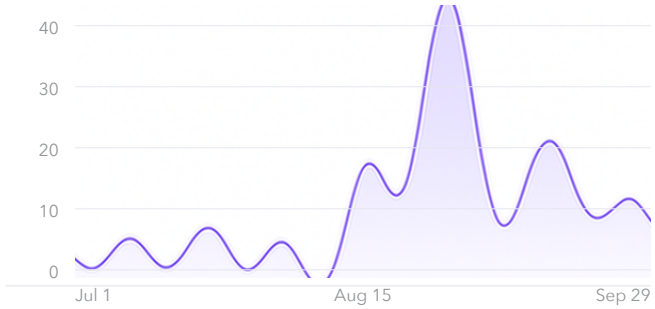
$122 2.6% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
$113	$123	$134

Traffic Citations (Salina)

10 0.0% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
3	13.85	39

Criminal Case Filings (Saline County)

3 0.0% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
0	2	11

Theft (Salina)

3 0.0% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
0	2	6

Civil Rights Complaint Filed..., continued from page 3

socioeconomic criterion. The organization has asked the Department of Education to investigate the program and determine whether it complies with federal civil rights law.

The filing is a civil rights complaint requesting federal review, not a court ruling or finding that Kansas Wesleyan violated the law. The Equal Protection Project's case page states that the Office for Civil Rights is evaluating the complaint for possible further action.

Kansas Wesleyan continues to describe NEXT Level on its website as a student-support program focused on retention and providing historically underserved students with mentoring, relationships and campus connections. The university also lists NEXT Level among several campus initiatives related to belonging and inclusion.

Salina311 has reached out to Kansas Wesleyan University for comment regarding the complaint and will update this story if a response is received.

Obituaries - Thursday, October 1

October 1, 2026



Dixie Louise Whaley

August 11, 1935 - September 23, 2026

Dixie L. (Stephens) Whaley, 91, of Salina, passed away Wednesday, September 23, 2026. She was born August 11, 1935, in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, to Stanley and Helen Stephens. Throughout her life, Dixie lived in Salina and Wichita and Denver, Colorado. Dixie was blessed with six sons, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a hardworking woman with a huge love for her family and numerous animals.

Dixie was preceded in death by her parents and son, Spencer Beavert.

Left to mourn Dixie's passing are her sons, Donald Jr., John and Andrea, Max, Paul and Naomi, and Stephen and Tracy; grandchildren, Donald III, Paul Jr., Trevor, Kamra, Elizabeth, Nicholas, Jordan, Christopher, Caitlin, Zane, and Heather; sister, Alma; half-sister, Linda; and several great-grandchildren and her first great-great grandson who is due in November; as well as many other family and friends.

Cremation was chosen and no services will be planned. There will be an inurnment in Roselawn Cemetery, at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Greyhound Hall of Fame in Abilene, in care of Heier Scott Mortuary and Cremations, 1920 East Crawford Street, Salina 67401.

Heier Scott Mortuary

Obituaries - Wednesday, September 30

September 30, 2026



Marcella "Shorty" McMickell

August 4, 1922 - September 28, 2026

Marcella "Shorty" McMickell passed away on September 28, 2026, at her residence in the Bethany Villages, Lindsborg. She celebrated her 104th birthday on August 4th, 2026. Marcella was born Marcella Hoeffner in 1922 on a farm East of Salina, Kansas. She was the oldest of seven children. Growing up on a farm, she was old enough to have farmed with horses and mules. She and her dad later acquired machinery and farmed for others in the community. She has led life to its fullest. She was an accomplished equestrian, angler, leather worker, and archaeologist. Her love of Native American history and history, in general, was evident as she still continued to broaden her knowledge with daily reading of historical facts that pique her interests. She also had a love for gardening and continued to display her faith by planting seeds instead of purchasing established plants.

Her backyard was her sanctuary, filled with a variety of birds and blooms.

In her youth, prior to her marriage, Marcella was employed by the American Optical Company, in Salina. She later married Harold Eugene McMickell. They celebrated 61 years together, and they raised three children. H. Eugene ("Bud") McMickell, Jr. (Celia), Bonnie L. Johnson (Robert), and Marian Jane Hart (Bill).

She is preceded in death by her husband, Eugene, her son H. Eugene McMickell, Jr. and his wife Celia and her siblings, Margaret Kennedy, Herbert Hoeffner, Carl Hoeffner and Frances Hoeffner. She is survived by her two daughters, Bonnie L. Johnson (Robert "Bob"), and Marian Jane Hart (William "Bill), both of Salina; her grandchildren, Todd C McMickell, Lees Summitt, Mo, Dustin S. Rhodes, Wichita, Stacy I. Williams (Greg), Raytown, MO, and Brian C. Hart (Rene), Topeka, and seven great grandchildren.

Private family interment services will be held in the Marquette cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Sunflower Terrace, Lindsborg, or Gentiva Hospice, McPherson.

Obituaries - Wednesday, September..., continued from page 5

Ryan Mortuary

Two Potential City Communications Positions Could Carry Six-Figure Annual Salary Cost

October 1, 2026

Two possible communications-related positions discussed by the City of Salina could represent a combined six-figure annual salary expense, although records provided to Salina311 do not establish the exact titles or total cost of both positions.

Salina311 requested records after City Manager Jacob Wood referenced two currently unfilled positions during a City Commission discussion involving Commissioner Gary Norris.

One position identified in the records is a Communications/Media Manager within the City Manager's Office. The city's 2027 classified pay plan places that position at Grade 110, with an annual salary range of $56,940 to $91,106.

If two positions were ultimately staffed at that same Grade 110 range, the combined base salaries would range from approximately $113,880 to $182,212 per year.

That calculation does not include health insurance, retirement contributions, payroll taxes or other employee benefits, meaning the total annual cost to the city would be higher.

The records provided by the city do not identify the second vacant position referenced during the commission discussion or confirm that both positions would be Communications/Media Manager positions.

The 2027 pay plan does include several other communications-related classifications, including Community Relations Specialist, Multimedia Specialist, Multimedia Coordinator, Communications Supervisor and Community Relations Supervisor. Those positions carry different salary ranges, so the exact combined cost of the two vacancies cannot be determined from the records provided.

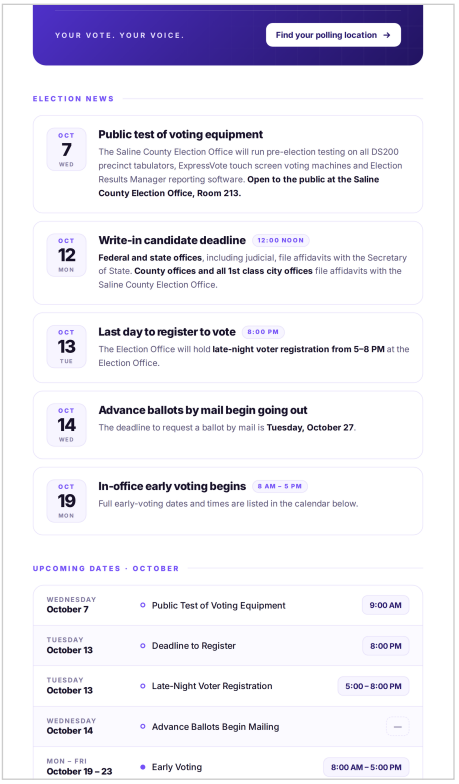
The Communications/Media Manager position would serve as the city's principal media contact and spokesperson, oversee communications across multiple platforms, advise city leadership on public messaging and manage open-records requests. The position would also have direct oversight of division staff.

The records provided to Salina311 did not include an annual operating budget for a communications department or a projection for benefits and other personnel expenses.

As a result, the final cost to the city would depend on which two positions are ultimately filled, where the employees fall within their respective salary ranges and the additional cost of benefits.

Saline County Election Office Releases Key Dates Ahead of Nov. 3 General Election

September 30, 2026



SALINA, Kan. — The Saline County Election Office has released a schedule of important deadlines, testing dates and early voting opportunities ahead of the Nov. 3, 2026, General Election.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day. OCT Email News

Voting Equipment Test Set for Oct. 7

The Election Office will conduct its public pre-election test of voting equipment at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7.

The test will include DS200 precinct tabulators, ExpressVote touch-screen voting machines and Election Results Manager reporting software. The testing will take place at the Saline County Election Office, Room 213, and is open to the public. OCT Email News

Voter Registration Deadline Is Oct. 13

The deadline to register to vote in the General Election is 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13.

The Election Office will remain open from 5 to 8 p.m. that evening for

Approval Ratings

Live Salina311 approval ratings — percentages only; vote counts omitted.

Roger Soldan
Saline County Sheriff
89% approve

Doug Rempp
City Commissioner, City of Salina
70% approve

Rodger Sparks
County Commissioner, District 3
69% approve

Joe Hay Jr
County Commissioner, District 5
69% approve

James L. Weese
County Commissioner, District 4
67% approve

Annie Grevas
County Commissioner, District 2
67% approve

Tom Arpke
County Commissioner, District 1
31% approve

Trent W. Davis MD
City Commissioner, City of Salina
29% approve

Michael L. Hoppock
Mayor, City of Salina
24% approve

John Reynolds
Saline County Attorney
23% approve

Civic indicators — marriages · divorces · sales tax · rainfall

Marriages

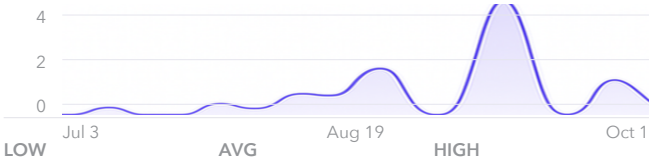
0 — 0.0% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
0	1	8

Divorce Filings (Saline County)

0 — 0.0% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
0	0	4

Salina Sales Tax

$1.6M — 0.8% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
$1.6M	$1.6M	$1.7M

Salina Rainfall

1.97 — 0.0% vs 90d ago



LOW	AVG	HIGH
0	0.14	1.97

Saline County Election Office…, continued from page 6

late-night voter registration. OCT Email News

Advance Ballots and Early Voting

Advance ballots requested by mail will begin going out Wednesday, Oct. 14. The deadline to apply for an advance ballot by mail is 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27. OCT Email News

In-person early voting begins Monday, Oct. 19.

Early voting will be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 19-23 and again Oct. 26-30. The Election Office will also offer Saturday early voting from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 31. OCT Email News

Write-In Candidate Deadline

The deadline for write-in candidates seeking federal, state and judicial offices to file affidavits with the Kansas Secretary of State is noon Oct. 12.

The same noon deadline applies to write-in candidates for county offices and first-class city offices, with those affidavits filed through the Saline County Election Office. OCT Email News

Voters can find polling-location and additional election information through the Saline County Election Office.

Rempp: Juby Email Was 'Very Damning' as Commission Faces Water Costs, Prairie Paws Transition

September 29, 2026



Salina City Commissioner Doug Rempp shared five takeaways following Monday night's City Commission meeting, including his view that Dr. Melissa Juby's email regarding the animal shelter was "very damning" and may have affected earlier commission decisions if members had been given more time to review it.

Rempp also addressed Salina's massive water infrastructure needs, the Prairie Paws transition, the Citizens Forum debate and criticism surrounding Commissioner Gary Norris' phone use during a prior meeting.

1. Water Costs Will Be a Major Challenge

Rempp said Salina is facing hundreds of millions of dollars in water-related needs over the next decade or two.

According to Rempp, the city is currently carrying debt service on approximately $190 million in bonds, with about 10% of that debt expected to be paid off by 2031.

He said an anticipated update to the city's main water treatment plant is estimated at approximately $58 million, while more than 100 miles of cast-iron water mains still need to be replaced.

"Closer to $2 million actually," Rempp said of the current cost per mile.

Rempp also noted that the city has not bid a water-main replacement project larger than approximately 2.3 miles in years and suggested larger projects could potentially reduce the per-mile cost.

"Maybe, just maybe, the cost per mile will come down with bigger projects," Rempp said. "One thing for sure, the costs will only continue to go up."

Rempp said the next major question is how Salina will pay for the work.

2. Prairie Paws Moves Another Step Forward

Rempp said Prairie Paws moved another step closer to operating Salina Animal Services after commissioners gave city staff direction to prepare a contract.

Once an agreement becomes official, Rempp said the transition is expected to take approximately eight weeks.

"The sooner the better," Rempp said.

He also pointed to the Animal Shelter Advisory Board's earlier support for seriously examining Prairie Paws and said Humane Salina has raised concerns about conditions at the shelter for years.

"It took determination to get to this point," Rempp said. "The Commission should have listened to the community earlier."

3. Rempp Calls Juby Email 'Very Damning'

Rempp also addressed questions surrounding the email Dr. Melissa Juby sent following the December 2025 euthanasia of three puppies at Salina Animal Services.

Rempp described the email as "very damning" but said he does not believe commissioners were ever provided their

Rempp: Juby Email Was..., continued from page 8

own copies.

"I think the commissioners had a copy in front of them for five minutes, maybe, at an executive session," Rempp said. "It was only enough time to scan over the 2,000-plus-word email. It was then collected back."

Rempp said that, in his opinion, commissioners may have responded differently if they had been given an opportunity to thoroughly review the email.

"I have to believe that if any of us had a chance to thoroughly read the horrific details listed in that email, we would have discussed," Rempp said. "Then we would have voted differently. That's my personal opinion."

4. Citizens Forum Changes Die Without a Motion

Rempp said the commission ultimately made the right decision Monday by allowing discussion over possible changes to Citizens Forum procedures to end without a motion.

He credited Norris, who initiated the earlier discussion, with acknowledging that existing policies already provide rules intended to keep Citizens Forum orderly.

Rempp said commissioners, residents and city staff all share responsibility for maintaining civility during meetings.

"All three sides play a role in keeping meetings civil, and all three sides have failed at times," Rempp said. "We are only human, and emotion and frustration can build up."

He added that improvement should begin with city leadership.

"We all must do better, starting with leadership," Rempp said.

5. Rempp Says Norris Deserves a Chance After Phone Controversy

Rempp also addressed criticism Norris received after using his phone during his first City Commission meeting.

Rempp said he had not previously realized commission rules prohibited commissioners from using their phones during meetings.

During Monday's meeting, Rempp said he nearly reached for his own phone to send information to a resident before remembering the rule.

"I almost picked up my phone to send the info and caught myself mid-reach," Rempp said.

He noted that Norris has apologized and said Norris has acknowledged both publicly and privately that he came on too strongly during his first meeting.

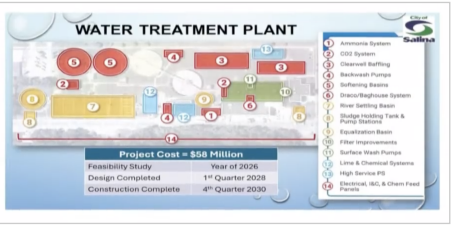
"I know there was an initial denial, but we all do things at times without even realizing it," Rempp said.

Rempp urged residents to give the new commissioner an opportunity to move forward.

"Let's give him a chance," Rempp said. "It's part of being civil. None of us are perfect."

Salina's Downtown Water Plant Faces Estimated $58 Million Upgrade

September 29, 2026



The Salina City Commission received an update Sept. 28 on a study of the city's downtown water treatment plant, with early figures pointing to an estimated $58 million project to upgrade the facility.

Utilities Director Martha Tasker said the city recently received a draft document of about 373 pages from engineering firm Black & Veatch evaluating the plant, which has a capacity of about 20 million gallons a day and uses both surface water and groundwater. She said the plant has been at the same downtown location for about a century and has not had major upgrades since about 2000.

Tasker said the study examines whether the plant meets regulatory requirements and assesses its equipment, with the goal of an upgrade that would last 20 or more years. She said the report remains in draft form because staff have not yet reviewed all of it, and that Black & Veatch would later present its findings to the commission.

Staff estimated design could be completed around the first quarter of 2028, with construction carrying through about 2030. Commissioners noted the project would come as debt on other water projects, including an $18 million obligation expiring in 2031, begins to roll off. Staff said the downtown water plant project has been accounted for in the utility's rate projections.

Salina Faces Federal Lead Service Line Requirements With Cost, Timeline Still Uncertain

September 29, 2026



Football Leaders

Salina-area season totals

Passing, rushing and receiving leaders from Salina311 sports stats — season totals.

RUSHING YARDS — Season

#	PLAYER	TEAM	YDS
1	Armane Redmond	South	467
2	Griffin Hall	Central	436
3	Maddox Wells	Sacred Hrt	370
4	T. Ptacek Dominic	SE Saline	361
5	Matteucci	Sacred Hrt	321
6	T. Keller	SE Saline	218
7	Gabriel Aguayo	Sacred Hrt	127
8	Alex Garcia	Central	122

RECEIVING YARDS — Season

#	PLAYER	TEAM	YDS
1	C. Klover	SE Saline	322
2	Kolin Wilson	Sacred Hrt	273
3	Noah Hines	South	256
4	King Anderson	Central	242
5	Jabrien Curtis	South	146
6	Tucker Rice	Central	136
7	Eli Kreighbaum	Central	121
8	H. Lund	SE Saline	109

PASSING YARDS — Season

#	PLAYER	TEAM	YDS
1	T. Ptacek	SE Saline	773
2	Maddox Wells	Sacred Hrt	676
3	Griffin Hall	Central	636
4	Izrael Telles	South	626
5	Jabrien Curtis	South	27
6	B. Brooks	SE Saline	17

TACKLES — Season

#	PLAYER	TEAM	YDS
1	Jaxon Anthony	South	24
2	C. Peterson	SE Saline	23
3	Drew Power	South	20
4	Maddox Girard	South	19
5	Mato Benoist	Central	19
6	Grant Ostmeyer	Central	17
7	B. Brooks	SE Saline	16
8	J. Kloster	SE Saline	13

INTERCEPTIONS — Season

#	PLAYER	TEAM	YDS
1	Caden Stauffer	South	2
2	Jayvn Armstrong	Central	2
3	Kobie Henley	South	2
4	T. Ptacek	SE Saline	2
5	Abe Perez Dominic	Central	1
6	Matteucci	Sacred Hrt	1
7	Drew Power	South	1
8	Kyeson Bunville	South	1

ALL PURPOSE YARDS — Season

#	PLAYER	TEAM	YDS
1	Armane Redmond Dominic	South	243
2	Matteucci	Sacred Hrt	108
3	Kolin Wilson	Sacred Hrt	89
4	Maddox Wells	Sacred Hrt	83
5	Jaxton Kitchener	South	45
6	Jabrien Curtis	South	42
7	Caden Stauffer	South	28
8	Noah Hines	South	25

How to follow local football on Salina311

- Season totals update after each Friday night contest for Salina-area teams.
- Live scores, box scores and player stats publish at www.salina311.com — search Sport Stats.
- Leaders shown here count only verified game events (duplicate null-event rows excluded).

Salina Utilities Director Martha Tasker told the City Commission on Sept. 28 that the city is working to identify and eventually replace lead service lines under an Environmental Protection Agency requirement, but that funding responsibility and timelines remain unresolved.

Tasker said the city has been reviewing water tap records for years to identify publicly and privately owned lead service lines. She said about 500 lines fall within the effort, and that on the public side roughly 350 are identified as lead while about 150 are unknown and must be assumed to be lead given their age. She said the private-side number is lower.

She said there is a requirement by 2027 to have an understanding of the numbers and a program in place, and that the city files an annual report with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, which ultimately goes to the EPA. The public side runs from the meter to the water main, while the private side runs from the meter to the home.

Tasker said the city has not replaced any service lines to homes at city expense to date. She described difficulty obtaining information on privately owned lines, noting that during recent lead and copper sampling staff contacted roughly 100 locations to secure 30 confirmed lead service line homes for testing. She said the EPA requires the city to make four documented attempts to obtain information from property owners.

Commissioners asked whether federal or state funding would cover the work. Tasker said funding is not clearly defined and that national estimates run into billions of dollars, with discussion focused on whether the federal government would assist with the private side. She said the long-term intent is a plan to remove lead service lines over a period that has been discussed as roughly 20 years, though whether that timeframe is feasible for all communities remains under debate.

Crime Stoppers Seeks Information After Two Thefts at Salina Walmart

October 2, 2026



SALINA, Kan. — Salina/Saline County Crime Stoppers is asking for the public's help identifying a suspect in connection with two thefts reported at Walmart, 2900 S. Ninth St., on Sept. 26.

According to Crime Stoppers, a person entered the store at about 10 a.m., selected several items and took a Black & Decker clothes iron to customer service, where it was returned in exchange for a gift card.

The person then allegedly left the store without paying for a Shark carpet cleaner and two Shark StainStriker bottles. The estimated loss from the first incident was approximately $300.

Crime Stoppers said the same person returned to Walmart at approximately 8:45 p.m. that day and allegedly stole a Chief's Poncho, two Bed in Boxes and a pillow. The estimated loss in the second incident was approximately $430.

Authorities released an image of the person they are seeking to identify.

Anyone with information about the incidents or the identity of the person involved can contact Crime Stoppers at 825-TIPS or submit an anonymous online tip through P3Tips. A cash reward of up to $1,000 may be available.

Tips may also be provided to the Salina Police Department at 785-826-7210, referencing cases 2026-25442 and 2026-25475.

Salina Man Arrested Following Disturbance at YaYa's Bistro

October 1, 2026

A Salina man was arrested Wednesday night following a disturbance at YaYa's Bistro, 251 S. Santa Fe.

At approximately 10 p.m. on Sept. 30, officers responded to the restaurant after receiving reports of an intoxicated and disorderly individual. Employees told officers that 36-year-old Justin Trusty entered the business already intoxicated.

According to police, when an employee instructed Trusty to leave, he refused and allegedly pushed an employee before acting as though he was going to strike the employee.

Officers arrived and took Trusty into custody without incident. He was transported to a local hospital for medical clearance prior to being booked into jail.

While at the hospital, Trusty allegedly threatened to strike and kill officers.

Trusty was later booked into the Saline County Jail on requested charges of criminal threat, battery, assault, criminal trespass, assault on a law enforcement officer, and disorderly conduct.

Police Investigating Theft of Marine Corps Recruiting Trailer

October 1, 2026

The Salina Police Department is investigating the theft of a trailer belonging to the United States Marine Corps recruiting station.

Police received the report on Sept. 28 at approximately 3 p.m. after the trailer was discovered missing from the area of Central Mall, 2259 S. Ninth St.

According to investigators, the stolen trailer is a red 2007 International enclosed trailer displaying United States Marine Corps decals. The trailer was last seen sometime within the previous week.

The value of the trailer is estimated at approximately $4,500.

The theft remains under investigation.

Era Pilates & Fitness LLC marks first birthday with community celebration

September 30, 2026



Era Pilates & Fitness LLC said it is celebrating its first birthday with a community event.

The celebration is set for Oct. 3 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Era Pilates, according to the post.

The post said signature drinks would be available during the event.

Barolo Grille marks six years with anniversary dinner service

September 30, 2026



Barolo Grille said on Facebook that it expects a full house for a special-day dinner service marking six years, and that the evening will not be a normal dinner service.

The restaurant asked diners to come hungry, enjoy the food, and dine in a timely manner so later guests can be seated as well.

JAB it LLC shares customer scam-warning tips

September 29, 2026

JAB it LLC shared a customer warning about tech-support and customer-service phone scams after seeing local residents targeted.

The post included tips on verifying company contact numbers and reporting fraud to the FCC, local police, FTC, and FBI.

JAB IT said customers can call 785-367-2500 or stop by the office with questions.

The post listed Salina police at 785-826-7210 for local scam reports.

Haven Academy students explore American Revolution at Expedition Liberty Day Camp

September 29, 2026



Haven Academy of Salina held an Expedition Liberty Day Camp focused on the American Revolution.

Jim and Natalee Ganyon of Stories and More visited as George and Martha Washington. Students practiced writing in cipher code with Dr. Ball, learned how American Revolutionists communicated, and studied events and ideas that led to the Revolution with Mrs. DeArvil.

The academy said the morning was designed to help students learn about the nation's past and the people who shaped it.

Family Searching for Two Dogs Missing From North Salina, Offers Reward

September 29, 2026



A Salina family is asking for the public's help finding two dogs, Ollie and Baylee, who have been missing since Saturday night.

The dogs were last seen on the north end of Salina. According to the family, only one person has reported seeing them since.

The family says they have searched day and night for two days, on foot and by car, across Salina. They have posted fliers within a 100-mile radius and contacted veterinarians and area shelters. They have also put blankets outside both doors of their home and left the back gate open in case the dogs find their way back on their own.

The family believes someone may have taken the dogs. They are offering a reward to anyone who helps bring Ollie and Baylee home.

Kansas law treats dogs as property, and keeping an animal that belongs to someone else is illegal. The family asks anyone who has seen the dogs to share the information and keep watching for them.

To report a sighting, call, message or text:

- 785-404-9188
- 785-643-9300
- 785-502-2595
- 785-914-3925

New USPS delivery vehicles arrive at Salina post office

September 29, 2026



Three of the U.S. Postal Service's new Next Generation Delivery Vehicles were delivered to the Salina post office on Tuesday, arriving on a car-hauler semi.

The white, boxy vehicles, which carry USPS branding and the "Delivering for America" slogan, were taken to the post office in Salina. It was not immediately clear how many of the new vehicles will be based in Salina or when they will begin carrying mail.

The Next Generation Delivery Vehicle, or NGDV, is built by Oshkosh Defense at a plant in Spartanburg, S.C. It is designed to replace the Grumman Long Life Vehicles that have carried mail since the late 1980s. The new vehicle comes in gasoline and battery-electric versions.

The Postal Service says the vehicles are designed with air conditioning, improved visibility and safety upgrades. They include a panoramic windshield, a high-resolution backup camera and automatic braking, features the old trucks lack.

USPS announced in December 2022 that it planned to acquire about 106,000 new vehicles, including 45,000 battery-electric NGDVs, as part of its 10-year "Delivering for America" plan, with $9.6 billion budgeted for vehicle modernization. Deliveries have run behind schedule. Oshkosh said this year it expects to build between 16,000 and 20,000 NGDVs in 2026, at the low end of that range.

The rollout has been gradual in Kansas. In January 2025, USPS spokeswoman Tara Jarrett said the agency had put more than 670 new delivery vehicles into service in Kansas.

Theatre Salina hosts music and dance workshops Oct. 10 with Collective artists

September 30, 2026



Theatre Salina's Center for Theatre Arts is offering a day of music and dance workshops Saturday, Oct. 10, featuring artists connected to Collective: Our Stories of Cancer.

Dance Exploration sessions with artists from the Owen/Cox Dance Group cover ballet, modern, and contemporary for ages 12–15 and 16 and older.

Music Creation sessions with Stacy Busch and Neal Young explore sampling voice and written text into music and beats, with options for grades 6–8 and grades 9 and up.

Sessions are $10 per person, or $25 for all three dance sessions. Financial assistance is available. Space is limited; register by emailing maggie@salinatheatre.com.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Suit

NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, KANSAS

JMS SUPPLY, LLC,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) **Case No. SA-2026-CV-000228**
)
ROBERT POHL,)
)
Defendant.)

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on July 10, 2026, a Petition was filed in the Saline County District Court praying for payment for supplies provided to Defendant Robert Pohl on account from its location in Saline County, Kansas.

Defendant is hereby required to plead to the Petition on or before November 18th, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in this Court, in the City of Salina, in Saline County, Kansas. If he fails to plead, judgment will be entered upon the Petition, against Defendant Robert Pohl.

SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY:

NORTON, WASSERMAN, JONES & KELLY, L.L.C.
213 S. Santa Fe
PO Box 2388
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(785) 827-3646
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By: /s/Robert A. Martin
Robert A. Martin
SC # 16546
Attorneys for Plaintiff

FBk/Calp

NOTICE

(First published in Salina311
Sunday, September 27, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, KANSAS

FIRST BANK KANSAS,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.) Case No. SA-2026-CV-000174
)
JACQUELINE KAE CALP a/k/a JACQUELINE K. CALP,) TITLE TO REAL ESTATE
) INVOLVED
Defendant.)
)

(Proceedings Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60)

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the District Court of Saline County, Kansas, I will offer for sale at public auction on October 21, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., at the District Court of Saline County, 300 W. Ash St., Salina, Kansas, and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand, the following real estate:

The East One Half (E/2) of Lots Eight (8) and Nine (9), Block (4), Stack Place Addition, to the City of Salina, Saline County, Kansas (property address: 330 Indiana Avenue, Salina, Kansas 67401).

Said real estate is taken as the property of Jacqueline Kae Calp and shall be sold subject to a three (3) month redemption period in favor of Jacqueline Kae Calp.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid, plus interest and expenses. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the mortgagor, the mortgagee, or the mortgagee's attorneys.

Roger Soldan
Saline County Sheriff

Lindsay M. Jaster (#30173),
HAMPTON & ROYCE, L.C.
119 W. Iron, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 1247
Salina, KS 67402-1247
(785) 827-7251
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Community Calendar

Upcoming Salina, Kansas-area events for October 5 – October 11, 2026. Times and venues as submitted to Salina311.

Featured



FEATURED EVENT

Saline County Drive-Thru Flu Shot Clinic

Wed Oct 7 • 10:00 a.m.

Saline County 4-H Building

Monday, October 5

Mon Oct 5 • 1:41 p.m.
Salina Kennel Club October 2026 Public Dog...
540 Idlewilde Pl, Salina, KS 67401

Mon Oct 5 • 8:00 p.m.
TI3R Music Entertainment presents Monday Night...
509 S. Broadway, Salina, KS 67401

Tuesday, October 6

Tue Oct 6 • 5:30 p.m.
An American in Paris (1950) w/ Salina Symphony...
150 S Santa Fe Ave, Salina, KS 67401

Friday, October 9

Fri Oct 9
Football: Sacred Heart vs Hutchinson Trinity

Fri Oct 9
Football: Southeast of Saline vs Council Grove

Fri Oct 9 • 6:39 a.m.
Salina Charity Horse Show 2026!
900 Greeley Ave, Salina, KS 67401

Fri Oct 9 • 1:41 p.m.
Going Beyond—Women's Conference
1125 W South St, Salina, KS

Fri Oct 9 • 1:41 p.m.
St. Johns Old Boy, Family and Staff Reunion
1320 N 9th St, Salina, KS 67401

Fri Oct 9 • 7:00 p.m.
Collective: Our Stories of Cancer
Theatre Salina

Fri Oct 9 • 7:00 p.m.
Football: Ell-Saline vs Bennington

Fri Oct 9 • 7:00 p.m.
Football: Salina Central vs Hutchinson

Saturday, October 10

Sat Oct 10 • 9:00 a.m.
Salina, KS: Health & Cancer Screening
Tammy Walker Cancer Center

Sat Oct 10 • 10:00 a.m.
Pumpkin Patch, Salt and Light Homestead
4325 East Humbargar Road, New Cambria, KS 67470



Sunday Crossword

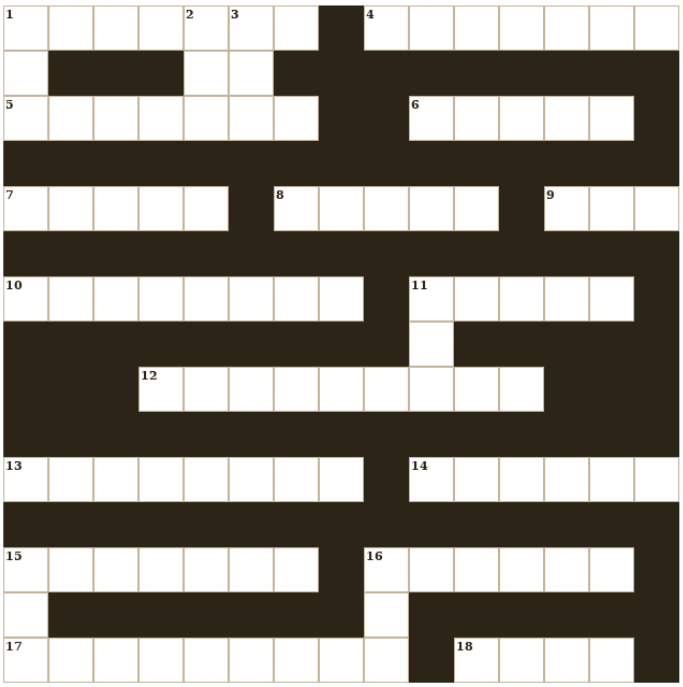
Answers available on Salina311.com/stories

Answers

Order / subscribe

FALL IN KANSAS

15×15 harvest season on the prairie



ACROSS

1. What Kansas farmers bring in as the fields turn gold (7)
4. Month of the first hard freezes on the plains (7)
5. Open grassland of the Flint Hills (7)
6. Spiced drink pressed from fall fruit (5)
7. Crop on the state license plate, cut in early fall (5)
8. Corn, by another name — often the walls of a maze (5)
9. Creek-bed tree that yellows in October (3)
10. Lawrence's football team on fall Saturdays (8)
11. Ice crystals on the pasture at dawn (5)
12. Straw figure posted to guard the patch (9)
13. Orange gourds stacked at farm stands (8)
14. What cottonwoods drop across the yard (6)
15. Wagon outing over the stubble (7)
16. Nuts scattered under the oaks (6)
17. State flower, still standing in early fall (9)
18. Color of ripe prairie grass (4)

DOWN

1. Brewing plant also grown on the plains (3)
15. Possesses, as the farm ___ a corn maze (3)
2. Top of a corn stalk (3)
3. Winter sport that starts to sound good after the first frost (3)
16. What turns crisp on an October morning (3)
11. Not near — as a farm down the section road (3)