

STERLING CHAMBER MAIN STREET

# SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

## MEET "SPLASHY"

BARBARA BENSON, DESIGN CHAIR

Meet "Splashy" the turtle as she rides the waves at Sterling Lake while lying on her back. Splashy delights in the water, grinning and splashing to join her mother and brother who are gazing up at the fireworks display. Dysart Park received this new look over the weekend. Sterling College graduates Cara Spencer (12), Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Sterling's Megan Clark Giorgetti (05) painted in between the rain showers to complete the mural. Splashy was named by the artists as her character came to life during the painting. Cara, on the right, teaches scenic design at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. The Chamber Main Street Design Committee has been instrumental in obtaining grants for the park with the help of the City of Sterling and Public Works staff.

A special "thank you" to the Public Works staff of Jeff Washman who worked to level and lay the new brick walk path in Dysart Park, and also stepped up and assisted setting up the scaffolding for the artists.

Shout out to Sunrise Outfitters is the latest recipient of Legacy Funds. These awards are available to any business owner to make façade improvements to their storefront with signs, paint, awnings or windows. Apply for available funds on a 1:1 match before beginning changes. Contact [visitsterlingks.com](http://visitsterlingks.com)



## STACY CLARK, CMS DIRECTOR

Sterling's celebration of our 150th Birthday and our country's 250th Birthday will culminate with a magnificent celebration of fireworks and fun on July 4, 2026. The day will be a special occasion for families, friends and fellow countrymen to gather for Sterling's Old Fashioned Fourth of July at Sterling Lake. This year the program book is designed by Sterling's Brooke Roach Callister, a graphic designer living in Nashville, Tennessee. Brooke says she never misses bringing her family to Sterling for the Fourth of July festivities, and this year is no exception. The schedule and event registrations can be found on the website, [visitsterlingks.com](http://visitsterlingks.com). Tshirts, buttons, and wristbands will be available for purchase mid-June at Dillons, First Bank, Rural Market and The Bulletin.



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## HEIDI MCCULLERS, ECONOMIC VITALITY CHAIR

Don't miss your chance to shred all those documents clogging your drawers and closets. **SHRED DAY** is Saturday, June 6, 10 am to 12 noon. This is a free service available to the entire community to safely and securely shred paper documents and files. Location of shred day will be at the north side of the Hyatt Life Building.

Now is a good time to sign up for your business to host a Chamber Coffee. These coffees are designed to give the host business an opportunity to show off their business, promote any new services or merchandise they offer, and invite the public to share a cup of coffee, visit and ask questions about the business. Get to know your business community and what it has to offer! Contact: [visitsterlingks.com](http://visitsterlingks.com) to sign up.

New this year. Be sure to get your copy of the **Historic Sterling Walking Tour**, a colorful guide and history of 14 downtown buildings and 10 area homes. The brochure will be sold for \$2 at the Chamber Main Street Booth during July 4 festivities.

Chamber Main Street Mission Statement: We are dedicated to strengthening Sterling through business development, preservation of our historic identity, and community connection.



## Community Shred Day!



Bring your sensitive documents for safe, secure shredding!

**Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

10am-Noon, Main and Broadway

(North of Hyatt Life)

Sterling, KS

STERLING  
Chamber Main Street

## KARI WILKIE, PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR

Kari is the person to thank for a wonderful experience at Main Street Market Day. From all reports, the locals experienced a beautiful day on Broadway with artists entertaining on the local stage, pottery making, blacksmith demonstrations, vendors AND lots of yummy food! Kari reports the day was a success and she is already making plans for next year May 1, 2027 when MSMD will showcase the arts with many more local and regional artists sharing their talents and displaying their wares. Sterling is well known for its cultural arts heritage; in theater, music, forensics, graphic arts etc. An art fair in Sterling makes sense and works with the CMS vision: Small town charm meets Big Opportunity. Stay tuned.