

NEWSLETTER



CELEBRATING OUR PAST. BUILDING OUR FUTURE

AMERICA'S 250TH + STERLING'S 150TH A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CELEBRATION

A Historic Year Ahead for Sterling!

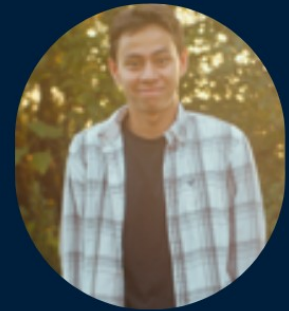
Sterling Chamber Main Street is gearing up for an unforgettable year as we prepare to celebrate two incredible milestones in 2026 - America's 250th Anniversary and Sterling's 150th Anniversary of Incorporation. This is more than a celebration; it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to honor our heritage, showcase our community pride, and build excitement for the future of Sterling.

STERLING'S OLD-FASHIONED FOURTH OF JULY - BIGGER & BETTER IN 2026

Our beloved Sterling Old-Fashioned Fourth of July celebration will take center stage in 2026 - and plans are already in motion to make it the biggest and best event yet. Expect more community involvement, more activities, and more reasons to come together as neighbors and friends to celebrate what makes Sterling Special

PLANNING HAS ALREADY BEGUN

A dedicated celebration committee has started laying the groundwork to ensure these milestone events reflect the heart, history, and spirit of Sterling. From event ideas to community partnerships, the vision is forming - and there's plenty of room for new voices and fresh ideas.



Sterling College senior Daniel "Danny" Stone has accepted the intern position as Marketing Specialist for SCMS. Danny is talented in digital media with experience in photography, videography and written communications.

He is hitting the streets of Sterling to interview Sterling Chamber members, create interesting videos of the workplace and feature them on social media. Greet Danny when he enters your business and remember to smile! He will be capturing and selling Sterling as "the community where small-town charm meets big opportunity".

visit us at <https://www.visitsterlings.com>

LOOKING BACK - MOVING FORWARD



SMALL TOWN CHARM MEETS BIG OPPORTUNITY - AND THE BEST IS YET TO COME

2025 was a year of growth and reorganization for Sterling Chamber Main Street. We strengthened our structure, refreshed our vision, and laid important groundwork to better serve our businesses and community. We closed the year with our Annual Meeting, where we were grateful for the strong turnout and inspired by our guest speaker who challenged us to think bigger about Sterling's future.

Now, as we step into 2026, we're energized and ready to deliver. This is a milestone year — celebrating Sterling's 150th Anniversary and America's 250th — and we see it as an opportunity to build even greater strength, connection, and opportunity for our community.

Our focus moving forward is simple:

Strengthen what we have. Build on it. Tell Sterling's story. Support our businesses. Create opportunity.

We're grateful to serve, committed to growth, and united in moving Sterling forward.



We believe great things happen when a community comes together.

That is why we declare May 2, 2026 as Main Street Market Day — a celebration of local talent, small business, and shared community life.

Circle the date - we can't wait to gather with you---Kari Wilkie

We're thrilled to welcome four new board members who are stepping forward to share their time, talents, and passion for Sterling. Alongside our returning board members, this team will help guide Sterling Chamber Main Street through a historic year ahead.



Jeff Pieplow



Dennis Wilkie



Sarah Staton



Megan Vincent



Barbara Benson



Brett Colture



Kari Wilkie



Heidi McCullers

Please join us in welcoming our 2026 officers:

Jeff Pieplow, President

Dennis Wilkie, Vice President

Megan Vincent, Treasurer

Brett Colture, Secretary

SCMS continues to serve the community with dedicated board leadership and volunteer support. For questions text or call (620) 904-7002 or email sterlingschamber@gmail.com and you'll receive a response during normal business hours.