



**RIBBON CUTTING -** Meg Van Dyk, SCMS board president, Table Coffee Roasters staff, owners and family, (owners - Cuyler and Lauren Prichard), owners of Clive's, Caleb Tremaine, Ethan Hershberger and family, back row Barbara Benson (SCMS board), Brett Couture (SCMS board), front row Taryn Daniels (Rice County EcoDevo Director), and Kari Wilkie (SCMS board).

**SCMS—**

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acquiring the building they operate in. Incentives Without Walls was a Kansas Main Street grant program that allowed designated communities access to building rehabilitation and business operations expansion funding.

Once received, the grant was managed and retained in the community as a zero interest revolving loan fund available to businesses and building owners in the downtown district. Clive's was able to leverage an additional round of funding from SCMS allowing them to expand their opera-

tions to meet current demands that were previously unmet due to physical constraints in their bakery. When Table Coffee Roasters needed to downsize their operations Clive's was able to offer a creative solution by housing Table's operations in their expanded space.

**SC journalists earn KS Collegiate Media Awards**

Sterling College student journalists made a bold statement at this year's Kansas Collegiate Media Awards, bringing home eight top honors in writing and photography. The Sterling College Observer team, led by Shaylee Gibbs and Tod Mastin, earned high marks in the state's most competitive collegiate journalism contests, standing shoulder to shoulder with the best in Kansas. The awards, presented this spring, recognized work submitted from the 2023-2024 academic year, showcasing the breadth and quality of student-produced content at Sterling. Gibbs, a 2024 Sterling College graduate from Amarillo, Texas, earned four awards across multiple writing categories: first place – Event Coverage Writing for “SC Thespians Solve the Mystery of ‘Baskerville,’” first place – Feature Writing for “Joshua Morris: Senior Thespian;” honorable mention – Breaking/General News Writing for “SC Volunteers Extend Hand to Ukraine Refugees;” honorable mention – Profile Writing for “Thespian Success: Wilson Cast into Legally Blonde.” Gibbs, who is now working in marketing at Friends University, made a lasting impression during her time at Sterling with her sharp reporting and storytelling range. Tod Mastin, a junior from Oberlin, dominated the Sports Photogra-

phy category with four awards: first place for “Lady Warriors Finish 1-1 at Home Invitational;” second place for “Sterling Warriors Fall to Friends Falcons;” third place for “Warriors Vs Bears;” and honorable mention for “Sterling vs McPherson – Rushing.” “I’m extremely proud of Tod and Shaylee,” said Todd Vogts, professor of Communication and Media at Sterling College. “Their hard work and dedication to the craft of journalism should serve as an inspiration for other Sterling College students.” Vogts praised Mastin’s eye for the action: “Tod came to Sterling College with incredible camera skills, so it is nice to see his abilities recognized at the state’s highest level for collegiate journalists—especially since he nearly swept the entire sports photography competition for four-year private institutions.” On Gibbs’ achievements, he added, “Shaylee is a rockstar. She can cover almost anything. That’s why she received four awards in four different writing categories. She’s amazing.” The Sterling College Observer continues to be a vibrant platform for student voices, delivering thoughtful, engaging and impactful journalism. The results from the Kansas Collegiate Media Awards affirm the strength of Sterling’s Communication and Media program and the promise of its emerging storytellers.

**SC—**

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ensemble. “It’s a song that speaks to courage and perseverance,” Callan shared. “It’s a message that resonates with our students, and we believe it will stay with our audience long after the concert ends.” One of the most poignant moments of the evening will feature a selection from “Newsies”—a musical deeply personal to several current seniors who performed in the show as freshmen. It’s a reminder of how music, like memory, marks our journey and

**Bassett—**

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of the Year, two KCAC Freshmen of the Year and numerous all KCAC honorees. As a coach she has amassed several accolades including NAIA National Coach of the Year (2021) by the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), 4-Year Women’s Basketball Coach of the Year (2021) by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association, three time Lonnie Kruse KCAC Women’s Basketball Coach of the Year (2021-23) and KCAC Champion of Character Coach of the Year (2015). Her time with Sterling College women’s basketball began in 2003 as she was a four-year starter for the Lady Warriors. On the team, she won two conference championships and one KCAC tournament championship. The team also made three trips to the NAIA National tournament where they finished in the Sweet Sixteen twice and the Elite Eight once. “In 2003 I arrived on the campus of Sterling College, as a student-athlete, having no idea how much of an impact this school and community would have on me,” Bassett said. “After 22 years, there is no adequate way to express how much my time here has meant to me.” Individual awards Bassett received during her time on the court include: KCAC Freshman of the Year (2003-04), KCAC Player of the Year (2006-07), KCAC All-Conference honorable mention (2003-04), KCAC All-Conference First Team (x3), NAIA All-American

celebrates our growth. With a program that spans eras, styles, and emotions, “Stand Up: Songs of Change and Hope” is more than a concert—it’s a celebration of the ways music connects us, challenges us, and calls us to be better. Admission is free and open to the public. of the young women you have become. Thank you to the incredible Sterling Women’s Basketball fans. You have been such a blessing. Lastly, thank you to my family - you are truly the best. I will always be a Warrior for life.” Assistant coach Tim Hendrixson will serve in the interim until a coach is announced. “The impact that K.C. has had not only on our women’s basketball team but across our campus will be truly missed. It has been a blessing to see her grow as a student-athlete, to assistant coach, then as our head coach, associate athletic director and senior women’s leader. We wish her all the best and we are excited to see her excel in her next chapter,” Athletic Director Justin Morris said. A nationwide search is already underway to identify the next Head Coach for women’s basketball at Sterling College.

(third-team) and NAIA Scholar Athlete (x2). She ended her playing career as Sterling College women’s basketball all-time assist leader with 549. “First and foremost, thank you to legendary coach, Lonnie Kruse. I would not be where I am today without Coach believing in me and giving me the opportunity to carry on his amazing legacy,” Bassett said. “Thank you to President Scott Rich, Vice President of Athletics, Scott Downing, and Director of Athletics, Justin Morris who have endlessly supported me and this program. Assistant Athletic Director, Deb Wiebe and Director of Athletic Training, Pete Manely, have been there for me from the moment I stepped onto campus, and I truly do not know where I would be without them. To all the players I have coached- you have given me so much more than I could ever give you and I am so proud

**HEALTHY LIVING LABS**  
Self pay laboratory services available by appointment  
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LAB TEST	COST
Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP)	\$6
Complete Blood Count (CBC)	\$ 5
Comprehensive Metabolic Panel (CMP)	\$ 7
Glucose	\$7
Hemoglobin A1C	\$11
Hepatic Functions Panel	\$6
Hep B Antibody	\$25
Lipid Panel	\$8
MMR Antibody	\$25
Nicotine Cotinine	\$40
Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA)	\$16
Vitamin D	\$34
T-3 Total	\$18
T-4, Free	\$26
TSH	\$16
Varicella-Zoster Antibody	\$25
Vitamin D	\$34

— \$10 Collection Fee —

**CALL TO SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT**  
**620-257-2171**

**—SILVER THREADS—**

**DANIKA ZIMMERMAN** performs her prose piece during lunch at the Silver Threads Senior Center last Thursday. Sterling High School forensics coach Dave Wilson brought several of his team members to entertain Silver Threads participants during lunch.

**County—**

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•Approved reimbursements to County Clerk Raechel Manley of \$1,054.29 for out of pocket expenses related to training and travel.  
•Approved adds of \$2,119.04, escapes of \$2,604.94 and abates \$33,707.96 of resulting in refunds of \$6,046.50;  
•Heard from Commissioner Terry David that there will be a department head meeting Wednesday, May 14 at the health department

EMS facility;  
•Approved new hire status form for the detention center as presented;  
•Approved joining the Sterling Chamber of Commerce for \$50;  
•Met in executive sessions with Kala Oden for non-elected personnel, and with Auditor Randy Hoffmeier and Clerk Manley for attorney-client privilege matters; and,  
•Proclaimed June to be Men’s Mental and Physical Health Awareness Month.

**Rice County Public Notices**

**Public Notice**  
A public meeting to discuss the 5-year update of the South-Central Kansas Solid Waste Management Plan will be held on May 19, 2025, in the Rice County Commission room in the Rice County Courthouse. The meeting time will be 9:30 a.m. Anyone unable to attend may mail comments to the Rice County Commissioners, 101 W. Commercial, Lyons Ks. 67554. (Published in the Sterling Kansas Bulletin, Sterling, Rice County, Kansas, on May 1, 2025). 200

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»SELLING IN 2 TRACTS«  
**UNRESERVED ONLINE LAND AUCTION**

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**MAY 6-20, 2025**

Seller: Bellator Group, LLC

Contact the Listing Agents  
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**BIDDING ENDS MAY 20 AT 11 A.M. CENTRAL**  
Get a salebill, register and bid at [www.bigiron.com](http://www.bigiron.com)

**Tract #1: 120± Acres**

- S 1980 ft of Lots 1 and 2 and S 1/2 NE 1/4 5-22-8
- 120.00 acres, 100% cropland
- All cropland is unplanted
- Seller's mineral rights pass to the buyer
- Early possession possible with 25% down payment

**Tract #2: 157.31± Acres**

- NW 1/4 27-22-8
- 157.31± acres farmland / 154.85± acres cropland
- All cropland is unplanted
- 100% Prime' soils
- Seller's mineral rights pass to the buyer
- Early possession possible with 25% down payment

**Attend the Auction**  
**May 20, 2025**  
9 a.m. Central until bidding ends  
**Studio 96**  
121 S Broadway Avenue  
Sterling, KS 67579

BigIron Realty representatives will be there to answer questions about the property and assist buyers with bidding online. You do not have to be present to bid online, but you are required to be available by phone. Sellers: Thinking of selling your property? Please attend this auction and see how it works!