



STERLING RESIDENTS Larry Brownlee and Bryson Brownlee are pictured in their costumes for the Wichita Grand Opera production of Rossini's "La Cenerentola" (Cinderella) which will be presented at Century II in Wichita on Saturday, May 17 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 18 at 3 p.m.

Sterling College arts awards presented

From show-stopping performances to award-winning media and gallery-worthy art, the arts at Sterling College thrived this academic year—and the curtain closed in style. Capping off a season filled with creativity and achievement, the college honored 20 standout students during its annual year-end arts awards, recognizing excellence in music, theatre, forensics, communications and visual arts.

With nearly a quarter of the student body involved in the arts, the college has seen an explosion of talent across campus stages, studios and rehearsal rooms.

“This was a strong year in the arts for us,” said Dennis Dutton, Arts Director at Sterling College. “I’m pleased to report that the arts are thriving at Sterling College.”

The final day of exams ended not in silence, but with cheers, formalwear and a feast—Sterling College’s version of the Tony Awards, affectionately dubbed “The Gordons.” Named in honor of longtime theatre professor Gordon Kling, the student- and director-voted awards ceremony has become a beloved tradition.

Before the trophies were handed out, attendees dined on homemade jambalaya prepared by “SC Theatre Mom” Laura Keegan, who has faithfully fed cast and crew members for the past three years. Her son, junior Kurt Keegan, is a regular on the Sterling stage.

The year’s artistic achievements were wide-ranging and vibrant. Theatre productions included the sharp, contemporary “A Doll’s House Part Two” and the irreverent musical satire “Urinetown.” The

choir explored musical traditions from folk to gospel, while the band performed selections inspired by literary classics and rock-and-roll legends. Four art exhibits featured student and visiting work, the forensics and debate team continued their award-winning legacy and communication students excelled at the Kansas Collegiate Media Awards.

The annual Arts Awards recognized excellence across all these areas. In the visual arts, Ryan Mitchell of Sterling received the Art Leadership Award, presented by art faculty Sean Engler and Katie Petersen.

Music honors were presented by Band Director Larry Brownlee, who awarded the Mr. and Mrs. R.O. Ferguson Memorial Band Award to Lily Stansbury of Lyons and the Frank William Montgomery Band Award to Macy Brownlee of Sterling. The Louie Armstrong Jazz Band Award went to Sienna Cauley of Great Bend, and the Symphonic Band Servant Leadership Award was given to Taggart Reiss of Hutchinson.

Choir and music faculty Marisa Callan and Sean Foster presented the Leon Akin Choir Award to Noah Svaty of Sterling. They also awarded the Barbara Thompson Endowed Music Scholarship to Brooklyn Richardson of Stafford; Copper Collins of Pretty Prairie (who also received

the Bob and Margaret Calderwood Endowed Scholarship); Hannah Ellis of Cunningham; Stansbury; Mary Little of Hutchinson; Philip Starnes of Wellington; and Reiss. Lily Condray of Clay Center was honored with the Carol McCullough Brown Endowed Vocal Music Scholarship, while Little also received the Rev. Alfred R. Bernadt, Jr. Memorial Scholarship.

In forensics and debate, Coach Ken Troyer presented the Clayton Campbell Memorial Forensics Award to Davi Brooks of Sterling.

Theatre faculty Lesa Brown, Greg McGlynn, Marisa Callan and Betsy Dutton presented the Evans Theatre Actress of the Year Award to Little and the Evans Theatre Actor of the Year Award to Svaty of Sterling. Anya Billings of McPherson received the Bill Thayer Memorial Scholarship in Theatre, while the Mike Zimmerman Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Olivia Ivie of Sterling.

In communications, Hannah Rupp was recognized with both the Jim Mosher Memorial Scholarship in Communications and the Max and Icee Moxley Scholarship in Mass Communications.

“The arts have a special place at Sterling College,” Dutton added. “Creative is in our mission statement—and we believe all creativity springs from our faith and God-given intellect and curiosity.”

BOE—

From *Page 1*

(ITS) state festival.

ITS supports theater arts in public education and serves as a governing body for theater programs. Implementing the Troupe will provide a roadmap to guide theater group organizations throughout the school year and in the future;

- Extended a teaching contract to Sarah Stallion for the third-grade position for the 2025-26

school year;

- Extended a .6 time contract to Greg McGlynn to teach theater for the 2025-26 school year;

- Accepted Jake Hammer’s resignation from the 2nd grade teaching position. He is leaving to become a principal in the Fairfield district;

- Extended an at-will contract to Jessica Saiz for an admin/treasurer/public relations position. Saiz will replace Amy Svaty who will be taking the Board Clerk position

upon the retirement of Laurie Evans;

- Approved list of technology surplus to be sent to a surplus recycler;

- Accepted a donation from the Kenny Wiens Estate for \$1012.50 to support FFA; and,

- Were reminded by Goracke that the deadline to file for election for the four open seats on the school board is June 2. The board has openings for three four-year and one two-year position.

County—

From *Page 1*

by Public Works Director Tom Robl;

- Approved paying CIC to install software on three work stations in the Appraiser’s Office not to exceed \$900 to help get all oil and gas lease data entered by Thursday. The data was supposed to be submitted by April 10, but an extension to May 15 was granted due to the error with the original mill levy. Interim Appraiser Joe Pennycuff said Rice County has 566 oil and gas leases that his office must enter data for;

- Approved a request from an employee in the Treasurer’s Office to exceed the 40-hour carry-over limit for comp time;

- Approved a request from a Treasurer’s Office employee to carry over eight hours in vaca-

tion time;

- Approved two employment status forms for detention officers as presented;

- Approved an employment status form for a bilingual employee at the Health Department giving her a \$1 increase for her interpreting services;

- Approved an employee status form for the Clerk’s Office as presented;

- Approved employee

status forms for two field appraiser 1 positions in the Appraiser’s Office;

- Approved an employee status form for a new employee in Emergency Communications;

- Approved the use of the courthouse square for Free Fest on May 24;

- Approved paying Brenda Tucker \$75 per hour for her assistance with payroll; and,

- Approved abated taxes of \$30,089.50 resulting in refunds of \$22,777.71.

—SC COMMENCEMENT—



STEPHEN MOREFIELD, pastor at Christ Covenant Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Leoti, gave the Commencement address at Sterling College Saturday. The ceremony honoring the Class of 2025 celebrated the achievements of 149 graduates.



JACAM®

Proud to be a part of the
Sterling community...where the
quality of life shines!

www.jacam.com



SRC Summer 2025 Tennis Classes

June 2 - June 26
(Tournament June 30 & July 1)

Monday & Wednesdays JH & HS @ 9-10 a.m. 1st-3rd grade @ 10-11 a.m. 4th-6th grade @ 11 a.m.-12 noon	1 session \$20 per person Both Sessions \$25 per person HS Students FREE
Tuesdays & Thursdays JH & HS @ 9-10 a.m. 1st-3rd grade @ 10-11 a.m. 4th-6th grade @ 11 a.m.-12 noon	

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS: MAY 23
Send Payment to Janae Ryan,
115 6th Street, Sterling, KS 67579
or Venmo payment: @Janae-Ryan-3
Email: ryanj@usd376.com or call Janae 620-639-5636
to indicate which session or for questions

Public Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
RICE COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF)
THE ESTATE OF)
THOMAS DANIEL)
WEISENBURGER,)
DECEASED)

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59
Case No. RC-2025-PR-14

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL
PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on April 22, 2025, a petition was filed in this court by Ann M. Costello, as an heir of Thomas Daniel Weisenburger, deceased, praying for the determination of descent; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before May 22, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. of said day, in said Court, 101 W. Commercial, Lyons, Rice County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

ANN M. COSTELLO
Petitioner
MARK A. TREMAINE, SC#18838

Attorney at Law
908 N. Broadway
PO Box 84
Sterling, Kansas 67579
tremainelaw@gmail.com
Phone (620) 257-7900

(Published in the Sterling Kansas Bulletin, Sterling, Rice County, Kansas, on May 1, 2025; May 8, 2025 and May 15, 2025). 7:50

(First Published in Sterling Bulletin, May 1, 2025)

IN THE 20TH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT OF RICE
COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF
THE PETITION OF
Melissa Kay Desemo,
Present Name
To Change Her Name to:
Melissa Kay Beck
New Name
Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 60
Case No. RC2025CV14
Div. No. 1

NOTICE OF HEARING – PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL
WHO ARE OR MAY BE CON-
CERNED

You are hereby notified that Melissa Kay Desemo, filed a Petition in the above court on the 10th day of April, 2025, requesting a judgment and order changing her name from Melissa Kay Desemo to Melissa Kay Beck.

The Petition will be heard in Rice County District Court, 101 W Commercial Street, Lyons, Kansas, on the 18th day of June, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

If you have any objection to the requested name change, you are required to file a responsive pleading on or before June 12, 2025 in this court or appear at the hearing and object to the requested name change. If you fail to act, judgment and order will be entered upon the Petition as requested by Petitioner.

Melissa K. Desemo
Petitioner, Pro Se
Melissa K. Desemo
314 N. 5th ST.
Sterling, KS 67579
620-793-2206

(Published in the Sterling Kansas Bulletin, Sterling, Rice County, Kansas, on May 1, 2025; May 8, 2025 and May 15, 2025). 7:00

BUSH, BUSH & SHANELEC

Attorneys at Law
229 South Broadway
P.O. Box 6
Sterling Kansas 67579
(620) 278-2331
gmb@bbslawyers.net

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
RICE COUNTY, KANSAS

THOMAS R. BRONLEEWEE,
Plaintiff,
vs.

Kansas Department of Revenue,)
Rubin Stegman,)
1967 Volkswagen Trike,)
VIN #135684156,)
and all other persons unknown,)
claiming any right, title, lien or)
interest in the personal property)
described in the complaint)
adverse to the Plaintiff's)
ownership or any cloud upon)
Plaintiff's title thereto, and the)
unknown heirs, executors,)
administrators, devisees, trustees,)
creditors and assigns of such of)
the defendants as may be)
deceased; the unknown spouses)
of the defendants the unknown)
officers, successors,)
trustees, creditors and assigns)
of such defendants as are)
existing, dissolved or dormant)
corporations; the unknown)

executors,)
administrators, devisees,)
trustees, creditors, successor)
and assigns of such defendants)
that are, or were partners or in)
partnership; and the unknown)
guardians, conservators and)
trustees of such of the)
defendants as are minors or are)
in anywise under legal disability;)
and the unknown heirs,)
executors, administrators,)
devisees, trustees, creditors)
and assigns of any person)
alleged to be deceased, and)
made defendants as such;)
Defendants.)

Pursuant to Chapter 60 of Kansas
Statutes Annotated

Case No. 2025 CV 18

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO THE
DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED
AND DESIGNATED AND ALL
OTHER PERSONS WHO ARE
OR MAY BE CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a
Petition has been filed in the Dis-
trict Court of Rice County, Kansas
by Thomas R. Bronleewe, praying
for judgment that the plaintiff is the
owner in fee simple of the follow-

ing described vehicle, to-wit:
1967 Volkswagen Trike -
VIN #135684156

and that plaintiff's title thereto
be quieted against you, and that
you and all persons claiming by,
through or under you be forever
barred and excluded from any
title, estate or interest in or lien
upon said vehicle; and you are
hereby required to plead to said
Petition on or before the 23rd day
of June, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., in
said court at the Courthouse in the
city of Lyons, Kansas. Should you
fail therein, judgment and decree
will be entered in due course upon
said petition.

THOMAS R. BRONLEEWEE
Plaintiff

BUSH, BUSH & SHANELEC
229 South Broadway
P.O. Box 6
Sterling, Kansas 67579
(620) 278-2331
gmb@bbslawyers.net
Attorneys for Plaintiff

(Published in the Sterling Kansas Bulletin, Sterling, Rice County, Kansas, on May 8, 2025; May 15, 2025 and May 22, 2025). 12:50