

August 2009



## Main Street Beat

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### Main Street Sterling Board of Directors

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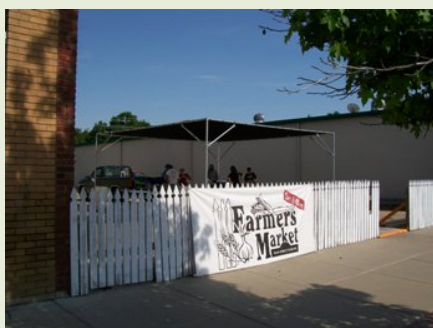
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### Farmers' and Artisans' Market



The Farmers' Market is off and running featuring a variety of produce, baked goods and wooden crafts. Produce includes tomatoes, sweet corn, squash, cucumbers and more. Whole wheat bread and other baked goods are also available. Be sure to check it out on Tuesday evenings from 5pm-7pm and Saturday mornings from 8am-12pm.



*Committee  
schedule*

*Economic  
Restructuring  
2nd Tuesday- 5:30pm*

*Design  
1st Thursday  
12:00pm*

*Promotion  
2nd Wednesday  
12:00pm*

*Organization  
2nd Friday  
12:30pm*

*Board  
2nd Thursday  
12:00pm*

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[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

Check out new 4th of July and downtown pictures!

## Fire and Smoke BBQ Cook-Off September 26



The Fire and Smoke BBQ Cook-Off will be held on September 26 in conjunction with Warrior Fest. Like in the past, participants will be able to show off their BBQ skills in one or any of 5 categories: Beef, Chicken, Ribs, Pork, and Beans. The Entry fee is \$5.00 per category. The public is also invited to sample the food, and vote for their favorite for \$5.00. Start making plans now to attend or participate in this fun event.

## Did you know?

This month's featured business is

***Kraftin' Memories  
111 S. Broadway***

**Owner Kay Pitts, has quite a collection of crafts and collectibles in her store at 111 S. Broadway. Elizabeth Madden sent in that she especially loves the children's aprons she purchased there. Kraftin' Memories is open Monday thru Saturday for your convenience, and is a new member of Main Street Sterling.**

*Thanks Elizabeth for sending in this Did You Know? tidbit. You will be receiving \$5.00 in Main Street Bucks. Did you know information can be sent to the Main Street office at any time for your chance to get \$5.00 in Main Street Bucks.*

## Rehabilitation Of Downtown Buildings Continues



Studio 96 got a coat of primer a couple weeks ago on the upper level. I was informed that the final color will be much darker, and should be finished very soon.

While progress is being made on the inside, the Art is Ageless Exhibit is currently being shown inside the Studio this week from 1-4pm. A reception will be held on Friday, August 14th at 2:00pm.



The Shay Building has new upper level windows, along with improvements continually being made on the inside.

The former Shirley's building, now owned by Gilmore Solutions, has a new roof. Inside remodeling will soon begin to provide opportunity for two retail spaces. Gilmore Solutions will move their offices into the very back of the building. Kansas Main Street awarded Gilmore Solutions a \$20,000 no-interest loan in March, and the business has just received a \$30,000 no-interest loan from the E-Communities program to help with this exciting project.



## Attention: Main Street Sterling Business Members

New Sterling College students will be moving in on August 17th and 21st.

Main Street Sterling will have an informational table at the college campus on these days. If you are a Main Street member and have coupons or promotional items you would like to have distributed, bring them to the Main Street Sterling office by Friday, August 14.

## Rice County Video Coming Soon

Jill Nichols, Rice County Economic Development Director, was in Sterling a couple weeks ago with a video crew working on a Rice County promotional video.

Interviews with Dave Wilson, Diane Defranco-Kling, and Debby Oller will be featured in the video about things to do in Sterling, Sterling College and the 4th of July Celebration. Video was also taken downtown, at Sterling Lake, and the Sterling Country Club. The 7-8 minute video will touch on all communities in Rice County with an emphasis on possible things to do for a day or weekend.

This project is funded by Rice County Tourism, which receives money from the bed tax collected at all hotels in the county. When complete, the video will be distributed at the state fair, sent out to people inquiring about Rice County and available on various websites in the county.

## Kansas Main Street Training

### **"Do it Yourself Property and Business Development"**

I had the opportunity to attend a very interesting training in Emporia, KS last week. The day included lots of information on Market Research and Analysis, and determining if the market is right for your business. We have a lot of this information from a study done by HyettPalma in 2004. This is invaluable information to have if you are interested in starting a business in Sterling. Stop by the Main Street Office and check out this and our other resources to help.

Community-Owned and Supported Businesses were also a topic of the training. Various examples were given of other communities filling vacancies and gaps in their business mix themselves through community-owned and supported restaurants, grocery stores, pharmacies, theaters, retail stores, etc. More information on these endeavors is available in the Main Street office as well.

The next Kansas Main Street training will be held in Leavenworth October 21-23. All KMS trainings are free to Main Street Sterling members. Contact [Christi](#) if you are interested in more information.

Have a great month!

*Christi Gilmore*

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