

Opera House presents Chicago

by **Tammy Johnson**
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The McPherson Community Theater is bringing the excitement of the 1920s to life with its upcoming production of Chicago. This famous musical has entertained audiences for decades with its sharp humor, unforgettable songs, and dazzling dance numbers.

Set in the Roaring Twenties, Chicago follows Roxie Hart, a young performer who kills her lover, and Velma Kelly,

a seasoned vaudeville star who has also committed murder. Both women end up in prison, competing for the spotlight and trying to win their freedom. With the help of slick lawyer Billy Flynn, they turn their trials into sensational news stories, using publicity to seek fame and acquittal.

The musical takes a satirical look at the justice system, showing how wealth, media attention, and public fascination with crime can shape court outcomes. Roxie and Velma use their notoriety to gain success, revealing the power of celebrity

in society. With popular songs like All That Jazz and Cell Block Tango, Chicago delivers a thrilling mix of humor, drama, and high-energy performances.

Through sharp storytelling and dark comedy, Chicago explores the influence of fame and the way people manipulate public perception. The show captures the lively spirit of the 1920s, an era of big parties, shifting social values, and bold ambitions.

Showtimes for *Chicago* at the McPherson Opera House are:

Friday, June 20 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 21 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 22 at 2 p.m. Friday, June 27 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 28 at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 29 at 2 p.m.

Regular tickets cost \$21 or \$28, with discounts available for students, seniors, military personnel, and groups of 10 or more. Thrifty tickets are \$10 and available only in the first balcony, with no discounts.

Tickets can be purchased at www.mcphersonoperahouse.org.

Library hosts musical event

by **Tammy Johnson**
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McPherson families and music lovers are in for a treat as the McPherson Public Library brings an exciting musical experience to town with The Polka Dot Café, an interactive concert featuring Thad Beach.

Thad Beach is a musician, songwriter, and teaching artist who is known for his engaging performances and ability to connect with audiences. His music is inspired by traditional folk, mountain ballads, old-time country blues and Tin Pan Alley styles. Over the years, he has performed at fairs, festivals, schools,

libraries, museums and community events bringing his lively energy to audiences of all ages.

Beach plays a variety of instruments, including harmonicas, limberjacks, strings, washboards, bucket bass, jaw harps and home-made folk instruments. His shows are designed to be interactive, encouraging audience members to move, clap and even play along because he wants music to be a shared experience.

The Polka Dot Café is scheduled for June 12 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the McPherson Community Building, 122 E. Marlin St.

Grant honors fallen veterans

by **McPherson County Community Foundation**

In March, the David J. Nutt Fund, administered by the McPherson County Community Foundation, awarded a \$9,295 grant to American Legion Post 140 to purchase 300 aluminum grave markers and flag holders for veterans buried in Elmwood Cemetery in Lindsborg.

The grave markers serve as semi-permanent identifiers, honoring those who served in the military. Their presence is especially meaningful on Memorial Day, when the cemetery is lined with flags and filled with volunteers paying tribute.

That weekend, the cemetery is transformed. Members of American Legion Post 140 place flags at each marked grave to honor the service and sacrifice of local veterans. On Memorial Day, the Legion hosts a ceremony featuring a guest speaker and a performance by the Smoky Valley High School band, which plays several patriotic selections, including each branch's service anthem and "Amazing Grace." Despite

rain this year, the service was well attended.

For Legion member Stephan Ahlstedt, the event carries personal significance.

"I participated in the service when I was in high school, and then I did 25 years in the Army," Ahlstedt said. "We're just trying to keep the tradition going. They all gave up something in their lives to serve their country."

Roger Anderson, a volunteer and son of a veteran, also spoke about the event's impact.

"I like to be out with the guys and pay respect to the fallen veterans," he said. "It means a lot to me."

The Legion regularly works with volunteers to identify the graves of veterans at Elmwood Cemetery. Currently, the cemetery has nearly 500 confirmed veteran graves. The new markers ensure their service is remembered.

"The big thing is for people to see where all the veterans are," said Legion member Daryl Johnson. "If we didn't do this, years would pass, and we'd lose track of where those graves are."

Obituaries

DOROTHY LUNDSTROM
09/23/1923 - 06/08/2025

Dorothy May Lundstrom, 101, of Topeka, KS and formerly of McPherson, KS, peacefully passed away on Sunday, June 8, 2025.

She was born September 23, 1923, in Wichita, KS, the loving daughter of James N. and Freda D. Mosteller. She graduated from Wichita High School North and Wichita Business College. She put her training from Business College to good use, first working in the office of Congressman Edward H. Reese in Washington, D.C. during the early part of WWII, and later working for Bremyer & Wise until 1991 where she was a legal secretary in the probate department.

On November 4, 1945, Dorothy was united in marriage to A. Edward "Bud" Lundstrom in Owego, NY. This union was blessed with a daughter, Gayle. In the spring of 1971, the family moved to McPherson, Kansas. Dorothy and Bud were married for 57 years prior to his passing on Christmas Day in 2002.

Dorothy was a faithful member of Trinity Lutheran Church. She was also a member of Order of Eastern Star where she served as Worthy Matron in 1982, and was also a member of Domestic Dames EHU. She was a Memorial Hospital Auxiliary member where she kept the books for Memorial Hospital Gift Shop, served as Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary, and was a 4-year Trustee.

She enjoyed playing bridge and cards with friends, bowling, sewing, walking her dogs, reading, and watching sports. She also had a love for travel and cherished taking her grandchildren on summer trips.

Survivors include her daughter, Gayle Hoglund of Topeka, KS; two grandchildren, Mike (Amber) Hoglund of Topeka, KS and Jill (Josh) Winkleman of St. Marys, KS; four great-grandchildren, Morgan Winkleman, Hunter Hoglund, Miles Hoglund, and Hannah Hoglund; and many extended relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; brothers, Ernie, David "Junie", & Roy Mosteller; and a sister, Lou Tinkler.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM, Friday, June 13, 2025, at Stockham Family Funeral Home. The funeral service will be held at 10:00 AM, Saturday, June 14, at Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Peter Rehwaldt officiating. Burial will follow at Elmwood Cemetery, Lindsborg.

Memorial donations can be given to Trinity Lutheran Church or the American Heart Association in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

Personal condolences may be sent to the family at www.stockhamfamily.com.



HOMER GOERING
7/25/1932 6/7/2025

Moundridge, KS: Homer D. Goering, 92, passed away June 7, 2025 at Moundridge, KS. He was one of six children born to Christian S. Goering and Marie (Kaufman) Goering. He was born July 25, 1932 at Moundridge, KS.

He was baptized in 1948 becoming a member of Eden Mennonite Church and attending there throughout his life. He married Dorothy Ewert on December 20, 1956 and the couple made their home on the same farm where he was born. They became parents of six sons born from 1957 to 1964. They moved to Pine Village in 2008. They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 2021.

Preceding Homer in death were wife, Dorothy; son, Jerome; parents and parents-in-law; three sisters, Delia Graber, Erna Stucky and Lola Beth Ediger; two brothers, Olin and Gene Goering; and sisters-in-law, Janet Goering, Ruth Goering, and Grace Brandt; brothers-in-law, Verne Graber, Ray Ediger, and Harvey J. Stucky.

Survivors include sons, Vaughn of Peabody, Larry (Sarah) of McPherson, Roy (Sheralyn) of Newton, Ron (Cecilia) of Moundridge, and Sam (Marcia) of Moundridge; brother-in-law, Raymond Brandt of North Newton; 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 12, 2025 at Eden Mennonite Church, of Moundridge. A private graveside service will precede the service in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be given to Pine Village or Gentiva Hospice in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.



KENNETH NORSTROM

Kenneth D. Norstrom, 84, a lifetime McPherson County resident, peacefully passed away on Friday, June 6, 2025, with his family by his side at McPherson Hospital.

He was born August 13, 1940, in McPherson, KS, the son of Milton and Pearl (Nash) Norstrom. In his younger years, Kenneth attended Roxbury United Parish and graduated from Roxbury High School. On July 23, 1967, Kenneth was united in marriage to Fern N. Johnson at the Roxbury Presbyterian Church. This union was blessed with a daughter, Brenda. Kenneth and Fern were married for 49 years prior to Fern's passing on January 11, 2017.

Kenneth was a United States Army veteran. He worked for 25 years at Johns Manville as an operator and then worked at Ferguson Production. He was a member of the American Legion.

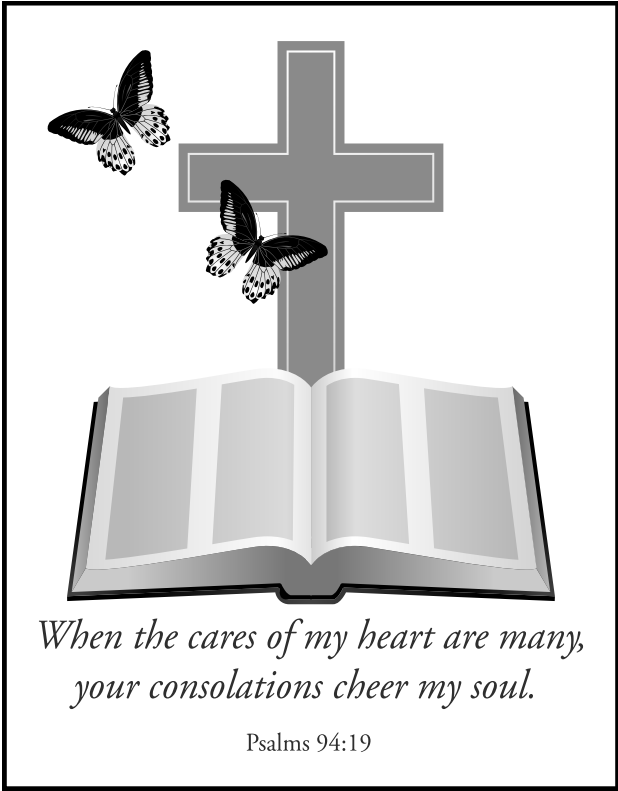
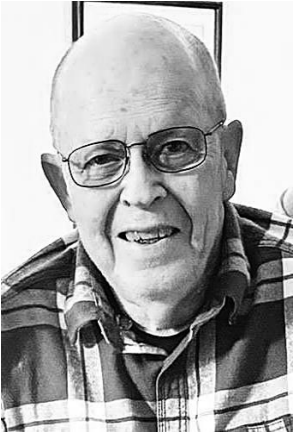
Kenneth enjoyed playing baseball in his high school years and was an avid Kansas City Royals fan. He loved bowling, watching sports, and he and Fern enjoyed having Poodles over the years.

He is survived by his daughter Brenda Becker and husband, Gene, and grandson, Tyler Becker. He is also survived by a sister-in-law, Luella Johnson.

Kenneth is preceded in death by his parents, wife, and a brother, LeRoy (Jeanne) Norstrom.

A private graveside service will be held at Valley View Cemetery in Roxbury, Kansas.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be given to The Cedars in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.



in loving memory

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