



BETWEEN THE PAGES

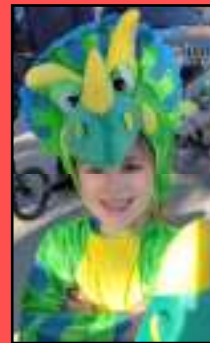
Plattsmouth Public Library, 401 Ave A, Plattsmouth, NE 68048
Phone 402-296-4154 Fax 402-296-4712

Volume 23 Issue 11

November 2023

Halloween on Main

Plattsmouth Public Library provided books and treats to an estimated 800 children during the Halloween on Main event Oct. 27 in downtown Plattsmouth.



'It Ends With Us' carries important message for all ages

Patti Jo Peterson

For the November book review, I decided to choose Colleen Hoover's "It Ends With Us," which has been recommended to be placed on the restricted shelves at Plattsmouth Community School District libraries.

Although I don't read romance novels, Hoover has an easy-to-read style that would appeal to readers. So when "It Ends With Us," started with a romance between the beautiful redhead woman, Lily, and a well-built neurosurgeon with blue eyes, Ryle, I was in unfamiliar territory.

At first glance, Ryle is every mother's dream of a match for her daughter. Handsome, smart and well-educated, he is truly charming, even though he only takes part in proverbial one-night-stands with the ladies. Lily, who is equally charming and intelligent, however, is looking for Mr. Right and doesn't involve herself in such trysts.

We learn about Lily's first young love when she rereads a journal she wrote to Ellen DeGeneres. Although she never sends any to DeGeneres, Lily feels like she's talking to the famous actor/talk show host on a one-to-one basis.

As a 15-year-old, she fell for Atlas, a young man who snuck into an abandoned home behind her parents' place because he had nowhere else to stay. She sneaks him food, clothes and blankets. As their friendship grows, he occasionally takes a shower at her house and watches the Ellen DeGeneres Show when her parents are at work. Without ruining the story, let me just say their young love doesn't work out, despite Atlas's native intelligence and good looks.

As a young woman, Lily meets Rylee and they begin a game of sharing "naked truths" with each other. Eventually, as you well know, they fall in love.

While I would not classify their sex life as pornographic, it was titillating. Sometimes I wondered if it was appropriate for a



Coleen Hoover

young teen to read.

But one should never judge a book by its cover or its first 50 pages. By the end, I felt anyone old enough to have a relationship, especially in its early stages, should read this book. Its message about domestic violence, which crosses all socio-economic groups, is vitally important.

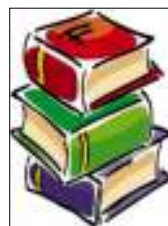
At any age, it can be easy to fall in love with Mr. Wrong. When we are lonely and vulnerable, a seasoned manipulator can steal a heart only to crush it — physically and, even worse, psychologically.

They may come in a beautiful and/or handsome package. They may be heterosexual, homosexual or bi-sexual. They are, nevertheless, always dangerous.

Hoover based the book on her own parents. Her father was adept at beating her mother without leaving any marks the public could see. Hoover shares her mother's experience after the book ends in a heartfelt note to readers. She admits it was a painful, but necessary, experience to write the book.

On the final page, she includes www.thehotline.org as a resource for victims of domestic violence and www.homlessresourcenetwork.org for homeless individuals.

We're on Facebook!
<http://tinyurl.com/2atk91>



**The way to have a friend is to
be a friend.**

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Plattsmouth Friends of the Library

Books worth reading more than once

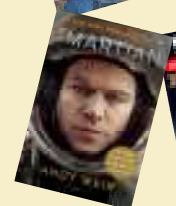
This October, we asked patrons to share the name of books they have read more than once. We were pleased with the response, and the results follow:

1. Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women." More than 100 times
2. Jon Stone's "The Monster at the End of this Book." 32 times
3. Adam Rubin's "Dragons Love Tacos." 25 times
4. F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby." 16 times
5. Lincoln Peirce's "Big Nate." 5 times
6. Andy Weir's "The Martian." 4-5 times.

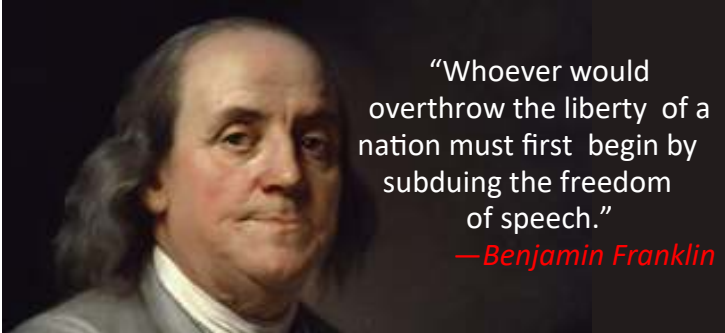
7. Stephen King's "The Stand." 3 times
8. Holly Jackson's "A Good Girl's Guide to Murder." 2 times
9. Ernest Cline's "Ready Player." Over and over

Books read more than once

Sandra Brown's "Friction"; Show Hina-ta's "One Piece"; All the graphic novels in the teen section; the Bible; Lindsay Mattick's "Finding Winny"; Laurell K. Hamilton's Anita Black series; Raina Telgemeier's "Smile"; Sandra Brown's "Fat Tuesday"; and E.L. James' "Fifty Shades of Grey" trilogy.



Strange questions asked librarians
"Can you remove this curler from my hair? My hairdresser is closed today and it's really stuck."



Borrow ebooks, audiobooks & magazines, all in one app!



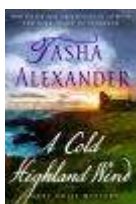
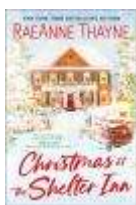
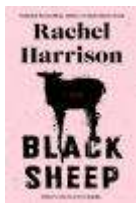
Libby.
The one-tap reading app from our library

Donate your cans and bottles to us for recycling.

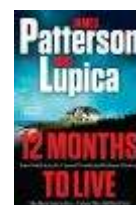
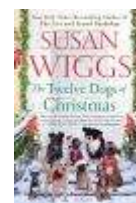
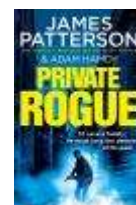
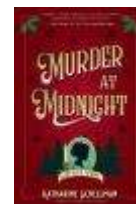
New Items

Fiction

10 things that never happened by Hall, Alexis J.
 12 months to live by Patterson, James
 After the forest by Woods, Kell
 Against the wind by Cabot, Amanda
 All the dead shall weep by Harris, Charlaïne
 An Amish Cinderella by Gray, Shelley Shepard
 The armor of light by Follett, Ken
 The bell in the fog by Rosen, Lev AC
 Black river orchard by Wendig, Chuck
 Black sheep by Harrison, Rachel
 Blood lines by DeMille, Nelson
 Bright lights, big Christmas by Andrews, Mary Kay
 The burnout by Kinsella, Sophie
 The caretaker by Rash, Ron
 Christmas at the Shelter Inn by Thayne, RaeAnne
 The Christmas fix by Score, Lucy
 Christmas in Painted Pony Creek by Miller, Linda Lael
 Christmas mittens murder by Hollis, Lee
 A cold highland wind by Alexander, Tasha
 The defector by Hadfield, Chris
 Dig two graves by Spillane, Mickey
 Distant sons by Johnston, Tim
 Endless mercy by Peterson, Tracie
 Ever constant by Peterson, Tracie
 The exchange by Grisham, John
 Family meal by Washington, Bryan
 The fragile threads of power by Schwab, Victoria
 The ghost illusion by Martin, Kat
 The girl in the eagle's talons by Smirnoff, Karin
 A haunting on the hill by Hand, Elizabeth
 A holly jolly ever after by Murphy, Julie
 The house of doors by Tan, Twan Eng
 Judgment prey by Sandford, John
 The last exchange by Martin, Charles
 Last to leave the room by Starling, Caitlin



The leftover woman by Kwok, Jean
 Let it crow! Let it crow! Let it crow! by Andrews, Donna
 Long past dues by Butcher, James J.
 Losing spring by Andrews, V. C.
 Lost and found by Fisher, Suzanne Woods
 Midnight at the Christmas bookshop by Colgan, Jenny
 Midnight is the darkest hour by Winstead, Ashley
 Murder at midnight by Schellman, Katharine
 Murder by degrees by Mukerji, Ritu
 The museum of failures by Umrigar, Thrity
 The night house by Nesbo, Jo
 No reserve by Francis, Felix
 Obsession by Woods, Stuart
 On Harrow Hill by Verdon, John
 Overdue or die by Brook, Allison
 The Paris agent by Rimmer, Kelly
 Paws to remember by Kelly, Sofie
 Private Beijing by Patterson, James
 Private rogue by Patterson, James
 The running grave by Galbraith, Robert
 Santa & company by Michaels, Fern
 Saving Emma by Eskens, Allen
 Second act by Steel, Danielle
 Secret invasion by Cornell, Paul
 Starling house by Harrow, Alix E.
 Sugar plum poisoned by McKinlay, Jenn
 Sword catcher by Clare, Cassandra
 Three holidays and a wedding by Jalaluddin, Uzma
 A traitor in Whitehall by Kelly, Julia
 'Twas the bite before Christmas by Rosenfelt, David
 The twelve dogs of Christmas by Wiggs, Susan
 The uncommon reader by Bennett, Alan
 The unmaking of June Farrow by Young, Adrienne
 The wake-up call by O'Leary, Beth
 Wildflower Falls by Hunter, Denise
 A winter in New York by Silver, Josie
 The witch of Maracoor by Maguire, Greg
 Wreck the halls by Bailey, Tessa



New Items...Continued from page 4.

New Items

Large Print

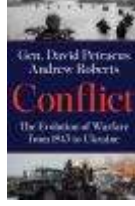
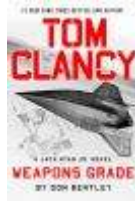
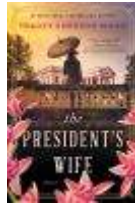
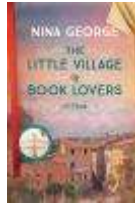
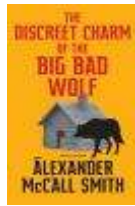
12 months to live by Patterson, James
 Blessing of the lost girls by Jance, Judith
 The caretaker by Rash, Ron
 Condor's fury by Brown, Graham
 The discreet charm of the big bad wolf
 by McCall Smith, Alexander
 Good bad girl by Feeney, Alice
 The heirloom by Lewis, Beverly
 Holly by King, Stephen
 Honey drop dead by Childs, Laura
 The little village of book lovers by
 George, Nina
 Masters of death by Blake, Olivie
 None of this is true by Jewell, Lisa
 Payback in death by Robb, J. D.
 Pink lemonade cake murder by Fluke,
 Joanne
 The president's wife by Wood, Tracey
 Enerson
 The raging storm by Cleeves, Ann
 The river we remember by Krueger,
 William Kent
 A royal Christmas by Carlson, Melody
 Tom Clancy weapons grade by Bentley,
 Don

Westerns

Damnation Valley by Johnstone, William
 The devil to pay by Johnstone, William
 Evil never sleeps by Johnstone, William
 Hang him twice by Johnstone, William
 Legion of Fire by Johnstone, William

Non-Fiction

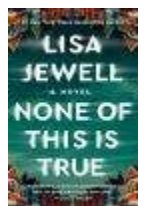
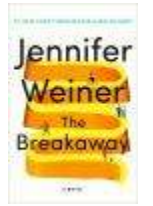
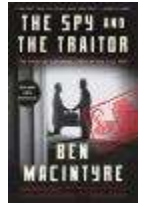
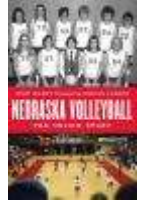
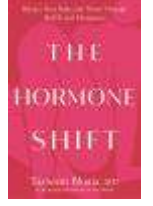
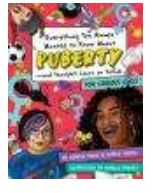
Be useful by Schwarzenegger, Arnold
 A book of life by Kingsley, Peter
 The canceling of the American mind by
 Lukianoff, Greg
 Conflict by Petraeus, David Howell
 Democracy awakening by Richardson,
 Heather Cox
 Dolly Parton behind the seams by Parton,
 Dolly
 Edible houseplants by Martin, Laurelynn
 Elvis and me by Presley, Priscilla Beaulieu



Eve by Bohannon, Cat
 Everything you always wanted to know
 about puberty by Hong, Gemma
 Fear is just a word by Ahmed, Azam
 The good neighbor by King, Maxwell
 Heirloom rooms by Napier, Erin
 The hidden language of cats by Brown,
 Sarah L.
 The hormone shift by Bhatia, Tasneem
 I am asking in the name of God by Francis,
 Pope
 Killing the witches by O'Reilly, Bill
 Madonna by Gabriel, Mary
 Making it so by Stewart, Patrick
 Mollie makes patchwork by
 Nebraska volleyball by Mabry, John
 Portrait of a City Lincoln, Nebraska, at the
 Turn of the Twentieth Century by Pauley,
 Bruce F.
 Prequel by Maddow, Rachel
 The sisterhood by Mundy, Liza
 The spy and the traitor by Macintyre, Ben
 The teenage guy's survival guide by Daldry,
 Jeremy
 To rescue the Constitution by Baier, Bret
 Vincent van Gogh by Metzger, Rainer
 Wild girls by Miles, Tiya

Audiobooks

The breakaway by Weiner, Jennifer
 Clive Cussler condor's fury by Brown,
 Graham
 The girl in the eagle's talons by Smirnoff,
 Karin
 Good bad girl by Feeney, Alice
 Holly by King, Stephen
 Just another missing person by McAllister,
 Gillian
 Learned by heart by Donoghue, Emma
 Lion & Lamb by Patterson, James
 The Longmire defense by Johnson, Craig
 None of this is true by Jewell, Lisa
 Out of nowhere by Brown, Sandra
 Payback in death by Robb, J. D.
 The river we remember by Krueger,
 William Kent



Continued on page 6.

New Items...Continued from page 5.

New Items

Audio Books (Continued...)

Secrets in the dark by Graham, Heather
 The summer skies by Colgan, Jenny
 What never happened by Hall, Rachel
 Howzell
 Whispers at dusk by Graham, Heather

Videos

Barbie
 The boogeyman
 The boys. Season 3.
 The Brokenwood mysteries. Series 8
 The crown. The complete fifth season
 Dark winds. Season 2
 Elemental
 Golda
 Haunted mansion
 Impuratus
 Interview with the vampire. Season 1
 Jules
 The last voyage of the Demeter
 Mayfair witches. Season 1
 Rabbit hole. Season one
 Ruby Gillman, teenage kraken
 Star trek discovery. Season two
 Strays
 Til death do us part
 Titans. The fourth and final season.
 Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan. Season three
 Transformers. Rise of the beasts
 Yellowjackets. Seasons 1-2

Board Games

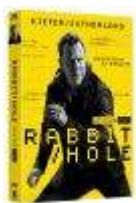
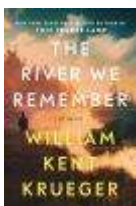
UNO Card Game.

Teen Fiction

The 57 bus by Slater, Dashka
 Calling the Moon
 Cytonic by Sanderson, Brandon
 Skyward by Sanderson, Brandon
 Threads that bind by Hatzopoulou, Kika
 Unseele by Housman, Ivelisse
 The Usagi Yojimbo saga. Book 5 by Sakai, Stan

Graphic Novels

Banned book club by Kim, Hyun Sook



Kaiju no. 8. 3 by Matsumoto, Naoya
 Star Wars : the high republic adventures
 by Older, Daniel José
 The Usagi Yojimbo saga. Book 6 by Sakai, Stan

Board Books

Booook! by Ho, Jannie

Easy Books

10 things I love about Halloween by
 Sweeney, Samantha
 Don't let the pigeon drive the sleigh! by
 Willems, Mo
 How does Santa go down the chimney? by
 Barnett, Mac
 Speak up, Molly Lou Melon by Lovell, Patty
 The very lonely firefly by Carle, Eric
 We disagree about this tree by Collins,
 Ross

Juvenile Fiction

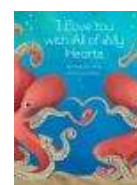
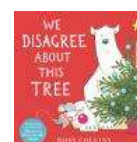
The colossus rises by Lerangis, Peter
 Crossing the Black Ice Bridge by Bell, Alex
 Food fight by Davis, Linda B.
 The forbidden expedition by Bell, Alex
 How to seize a dragon's jewel by Cowell,
 Cressida
 Lion down by Gibbs, Stuart
 The Polar Bear Explorers' Club by Bell, Alex
 Sardines by Kaufman, Sashi
 The skull by Klassen, Jon

Juvenile Non-Fiction

I love you with all of my hearts by Bonilla,
 Lindsay

Juvenile Graphic Novels

Growing pangs by Ormsbee, Kathryn
 Into the heartlands by Brown, Roseanne A.
 Unicorn vs. goblins by Simpson, Dana



Politics and Plattsmouth's First Postmasters

By Harlan Seyfer

Historian, Historic Downtown Plattsmouth Association



Folklore maintains that Wheatley Mickelwait's hat was the first post office in Plattsmouth. Albert Child, writing the first history of the city in 1877, quipped, "I think this statement liable to grave doubts, as this said hat, as I recollect it, was so largely ventilated that it was subject at any time or place to a wholesale and broadcast delivery." We do know, thanks to records in the National Archives, that Wheatley (or Wheatly) was appointed Plattsmouth's first postmaster by President Franklin Pierce on 23 December 1854 (a nice Christmas present). Due to the slowness of mail to remote locations, he may not have received word of his appointment until the following month and year. Mostly likely, Wheatley carried the mail in his coat pockets and not his hat (a nice story anyway). "After awhile," Child continued, "perhaps finding the P.O. building [either hat or pocket] not fully reliable, [Mickelwait] transferred [the post office] to Slaughter & Worley's store," where John Worley was deputized to receive and distribute the mail. It appears that the store was located in the "Old Barracks," where "Caboose Park" is found today at the foot of Main Street. At the time, Plattsmouth "contained six houses, there being, in addition to [the two at the 'Old Barracks'], three log houses on Main street, between Third and Sixth, built by

T. G. Palmer, Wheatley Mickelwait and William Garrison, respectively; and a frame building, the first in Plattsmouth, bearing upon its front the legend, *Farmers' Hotel*."

Wheatley Mickelwait played a key role in the founding of Plattsmouth. For that reason alone, he is worth a closer look. Wheatley was born in Yorkshire, England, in January 1826. He immigrated with his parents and siblings to the United States in 1831. After farming in Morgan County, Illinois, for ten years, the family moved to Henry County in southeast Iowa, where he became a naturalized citizen in 1847. In 1853, the records of the District Court for Mills County show Wheatley Mickelwait indicted for assault and battery – case dismissed. A second indictment for selling intoxicating liquor was also brought, from which Mickelwait did not escape and fined \$10.00. His wild oats sown, he settled down, marrying Illisiana Sharpe in June 1854, and began speculating in Mills County land by purchasing about 1,440 acres (two and a quarter square miles) of farmland. In March 1855, Mickelwait and several others were granted a charter by the first session of the Nebraska Territorial Legislature to operate a ferry across the Missouri River. Mickelwait was the operator, the others simply investors. Since he was running the ferry, postal patrons had to wait until he landed in Plattsmouth to pickup or send mail. At the town's first election in December 1856, Mickelwait was elected Mayor of Plattsmouth, serving until January 1858. He passed away on the Fourth of July in 1898.

When Oscar Johnson (a Democrat) replaced Mickelwait as postmaster in June 1857, he continued to maintain the post office out of the "Old Barrack's" until about 1858 when it was replaced by the "Old New York Store" run by Slaughter and Worley. No problem, Johnson moved the post office into the new structure. Plattsmouth's 1855 population was a little over 240; Cass County's, about 712 souls.

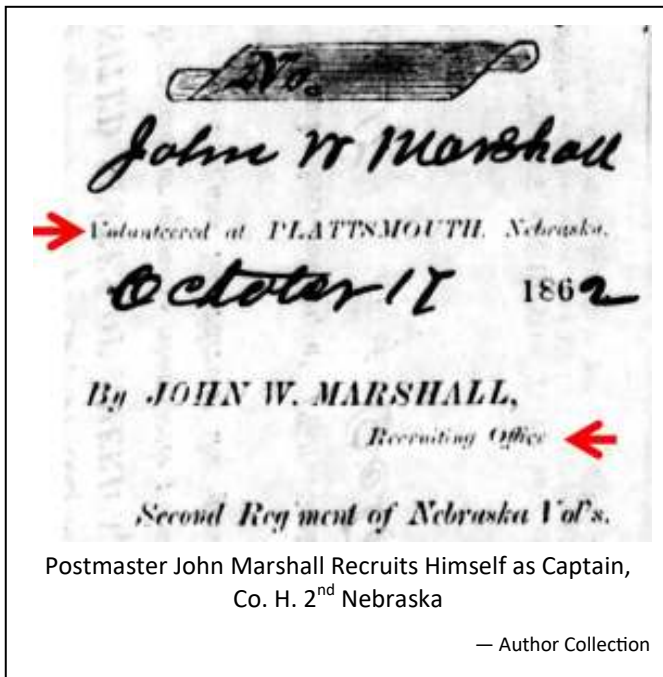
John Marshall (a Republican), who succeeded Johnson in June 1861, relocated the post office up Main Street where he "first kept the office in Dr. G. H. Black's ... office, next door below Dovey's store. He then moved up to the Court House, and from there to Fitzgerald's block," Albert Child recorded in his *History of Plattsmouth*. Dr. Black's office was located on the south side of Main Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets, possibly between Third and Fourth. The courthouse on Main Street was constructed on the southeast corner



The First Courthouse Served Briefly as the Plattsmouth Post office ca. 1962

— Nebraska State Historical Society

Continued from page 7.



of the present courthouse lawn in 1864 through a mutual agreement between the Plattsmouth Masons and Cass County. That structure served until replaced by the current court house in 1892.

With the withdrawal of army forces from the west for the Civil War, heightened by Indian attacks in Minnesota during the summer of 1882, Nebraska Territory residents felt exposed to Indian depredations. Not held back by his postmaster duties, Marshall enlisted himself as captain of Company "H", Second Nebraska Volunteer Cavalry. Although, to be fair, he was authorized to do so by Alvin Saunders, Nebraska Territory Governor.

Marshall surrendered the postmastership for about three months in 1866 to Edward Hutchinson (politics unknown). Very little is known about Hutchinson, who may not even have been a resident of Nebraska. Anyway, Marshall was soon back in office, reappointed in December 1866, going on to serve as postmaster for another 19 years. During this period he also served as judge during the probate case of Peter Sarpy (after whom our neighboring county is named). Sarpy died in Plattsmouth in 1865. Captain Marshall, as he was called, passed away in in San Diego, California, in 1901. His ashes were shipped back to Plattsmouth and buried in Oakhill Cemetery on Sunday, 12 May 1901.

In 1885, Grover Cleveland became the first Democratic President elected in a quarter century, with a Democratic controlled House of Representatives, but a Republican dominated Senate. Postmasters were political appointees up to this time (Civil Service Reform was just slowly getting underway and would not yet be fully effective

until the 20th century). When Cleveland appointed Jonathan N. Wise – a Democrat – postmaster of Plattsmouth, Nebraska’s Republican press predictably reacted. “What good [Nebraska’s Republican Senators] Tipton and Charlie Brown are doing in Washington on a day when Johnathan N. Wise is appointed postmaster at Plattsmouth is a conundrum that yearns for an answer,” responded the *Nebraska State Journal* in Lincoln. The *Wahoo Independent* grumbled, “This man Wise of Plattsmouth, is an ex-administrator of the Sarpy estate in Cass county and is reported to be short several thousands of dollars,” adding that Wise was appointed by “a conference of political deadheads and soreheads.” Dr. Black, whose office once served as post office, was livid and travelled to Washington, D.C. to vent. The *State Journal* decided that was going too far, noting, “Dr. Black of Plattsmouth is in the corridors of the capitol, clad in war paint, and he is after the scalp of Jonathan S. [sic] Wise. ... But we dread the effect of this little racket upon the future course of events. If one post office brings the factions into bloody array what will be the condition of things when all the spoils are laid out for division?”

With the return of the Republicans to the Presidency in the form of Benjamin Harrison, the proverbial pendulum swung to the other side. In 1889, Democrat Wise was out, replaced by Republican Henry Streight, with little or no comment from the Nebraska press. Streight fought in the Civil War, enlisting as a private in Berry’s Battalion, Missouri Cavalry, but was discharged from the Sixth Iowa Volunteer Cavalry as a Lieutenant. He ran a furniture store (and undertaking service) in Plattsmouth, where he died in 1914 and was buried in Oakhill Cemetery.

In 1893, Cleveland was back in office, Streight was out, and William Kelly Fox was in as Plattsmouth Postmaster. Kelly Fox (as he was called) was elected Plattsmouth City Clerk in 1888, resigning in 1894 to become Postmaster. When Republican William McKinley was elected in 1897, Fox was out – of course. He ended his public life in the county treasurer’s office, retiring as County Treasurer in 1917. At 56 years old, he passed away in January 1918.

Chester Smith became postmaster in 1898. Smith was luckier than his previous four colleagues, serving longer – ten years – under McKinley and Teddy Roosevelt until 1909. In the 1870s, he had moved from Rock Bluffs to Plattsmouth where he opened a drug store with G.B. Chapman. He passed away in his sleep at his Plattsmouth home in 1931.

Thus ends our review of Nineteenth Century Plattsmouth Postmasters. Despite being each and everyone a political appointee, they served their community conscientiously with efficiency.

November

AGE Color Guide
 Blue = Ages 0-5
 Pink = 0-9
 TWEEN = 10-14
 TEEN = 12+
 Tween & Teen = Ages 10+
 Green = Family Event
 Red = Adults 19+

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Youth Bingo 4-5pm	2 Storytime 10-10:30am	3 Friday Friends 10-11:30am Family Board Games 6-8pm	4 Adult Book Club 10-11am Youth D&D 10-2pm
5 Youth D&D 1-3pm	6 Storytime 10-10:30am Woodcarvers 12-3pm	7 Rook & Read Chess Club 3-4:30pm	8 Bad Art Club 4-5pm	9 Storytime 10-10:30am Homeschool Group 1-3pm AniManga 4-5:30pm	10 Library Closed	11 Saturday Morning Cartoons 9:30-11am
12 Youth D&D 1-3pm	13 Storytime 10-10:30am Woodcarvers 12-3pm	14	15 Adult Bingo 1:30-2:30pm Paws for Reading 4:30-5:30pm	16 Storytime 10-10:30am	17 Friday Friends 10-11:30am Family Board Games 6-8pm	18 Youth D&D 10-2pm
19 Youth D&D 1-3pm	20 Storytime 10-10:30am Woodcarvers 12-3pm	21 Rook & Read Chess Club 3-4:30pm Teen Volunteer Meeting 4:30-5:30pm	22 Library Board Meeting 5:30pm	23 Library Closed	24 Library Closed	25 Saturday Morning Cartoons 9:30-11am Teen BookClub 12:30-1:30pm Video Game Day 2-3:30pm
26 Youth D&D 1-3pm	27 Storytime 10-10:30am Woodcarvers 12-3pm	28	29	30 Storytime 10-10:30am		