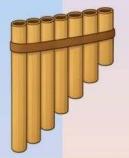


BETWEEN THE PAGES

Plattsmouth Public Library, 401 Ave A, Plattsmouth, NE 68048

Volume 26 Issue 11 November 2025



Andean Folk Music & Cultures of South America By Oscar Rios Pohirieth





Wednesday,
November 12
6:30-7:30pm
Village Inn Pies
Served at 6pm





Experience the Andean cultures of Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Chile through an acoustic journey and storytelling.





RSVP and let us know what pie you would like at 402-296-4154 x1124.

Take-and-Make Houses available Nov. 1



or the past three years, the library has offered its patrons a chance to take home a mini house/ornament kit for the holidays. This year, 30 kits will be available to our patrons who have current library cards.

Due to limited quantities, however, only one kit per family will be provided.

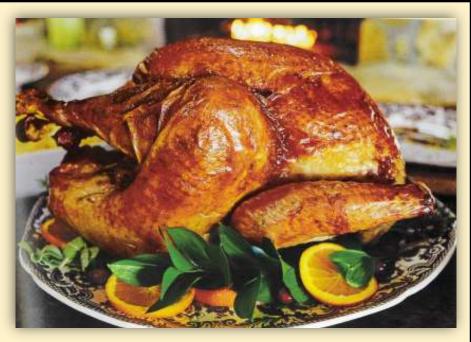
Each year, the house is different. This year, the house includes three windows, a door and

two triangular trim pieces as well as a base engraved with the words "Plattsmouth Public Library 2025". The kits also contain paint brush, paint pot for the house color, a small paint pot for white paint to use for the windows and door, and a paint pot with gray paint for the roof pieces. A plastic cup of "glittery fake snow" is in the kit so patrons can adorn the house with it.

Book Review by Patti Jo Peterson

AT RIGHT, the book includes directions for a Roasted Thanksgiving Turkey. Ree Drummand suggests that people only cook fresh turkeys, not frozen. BELOW, a pecan pie featured in the Pioneer Woman Cooks holiday version.





The Pioneer Moman Cooks: A YEAR OF HOLIDAYS

According to AAA, 89% of the U.S. population will travel Nov. 27 to fulfill their Thanksgiving Day plans.

Most of my childhood and young adulthood, my parents and I would drive to Belleville, Kansas, where my Aunt Velma and Uncle Jim lived. Velma would cook the turkey and all the fixings including scalloped oysters, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes and so many other side dishes that I can't remember them all.

We would eat until our stomachs were full, then stay sitting down to visit, nap in a chair or head to the living room for the top football games.

At 2 p.m., Velma would ask her guests what specific pie they wanted, and it seemed mandatory to choose one right then and there and eat it, with whipped cream of course, even though you hadn't really digested much of the meal yet.

Since we are close to Thanksgiving this month, I decided to search out a cookbook with some Thanksgiving recipes different from my aunt's. A search of the library's collection brought up *The Pioneer Woman Cooks: A Year of Holidays* by Ree Drummond.

The book has the subtitle "140 Step-by-Step Recipes for Simple, Scrumptious Celebrations." This particular cookbook has a section for 12 different holidays: New Year's Day, The Big Game, Valentine's Day, Easter, Cinco De Mayo, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve.

Ree opens the Thanksgiving section with a Pumpkin Smoothie recipe serving 8-12 people.

Of course, no Thanksgiving meal would be complete without the traditional Roasted Thanksgiving Turkey recipe and Bree's own favorite Turkey Brine and Giblet Gravy.

Along with the turkey, the section includes instructions for a Basic Dressing, which includes skillet cornbread, two other breads, onions, parsley, butter, chicken broth, basis, thyme, fresh rosemary, salt and pepper. Each step has an accompanying picture.

If the basic dressing recipe doesn't strike your fancy, Ree follows it with a Dressing with Sausage, apples and Mushrooms recipe, a Dressing with Dried Fruit and Nuts recipe and Oyster Dressing.

Vegetable concoctions include Green Beans and Tomatoes, Soul Sweet Taters and Broccoli-Wild Rice Casserole.

What would Thanksgiving be without freshly baked hot rolls, so Ree includes a recipe for No-Knead Cloverleaf rolls? (I can smell them baking right now).

In addition, consider making Perfect Mashed Potatoes as well as cranberry sauce. The crescendo, of course, includes recipes for Caramel Apple Pie, Pecan Pie and Pumpkin Pie.

Especially helpful is the recipe for a Perfect Pie Crust, something I never mastered. No matter where you go, Thanksgiving is a day to give thanks with family and delicious eats.

From the library staff to you, Happy Thanksgiving.



Soul Sweet Taters

Makes 12 servings4 medium sweet potatoes

- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 whole eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup packed brown sugar

1/2 cup all purpose flour 6 tablespoons cold butter (cut into pieces) 1 cup chopped pecans

- 1. Preheat oven to 375° F.
- 2. Wash the sweet potatoes, then prick them a few times with a fork. Bake them for 35 to 40 minutes until fork tender.
- 3. Slice them in half and let them cool slightly. Raise the oven temperature to 400° F.
- **4.** Scoop out the innards, place the potatoes in a bowl, and give them a good mash. Leave some texture to the sweet potatoes: no need to mash completely.
- 5. Add the milk, sugar, eggs, vanilla and salt. Stir and mash the mixture around until everything is combined but not perfectly smooth.
- 6. Butter a 2-quart baking dish.
- 7. Pour in the 'taters.
- 8. Smooth out the top.
- 9. To make the topping, combine the brown sugar and flour in a medium bowl.
- **10.** Mix them together.
- **11.** Throw in the butter and use a pastry blender to cut it all together.
- **12.** Add the pecans.

Who Is Ree Drummond?

ee Drummond is a blogger, photographer and celebrity chef who first grew a fanbase around her awardwinning blog, The Pioneer Woman, which she launched in 2006. In her blog she shared what family life was like living on an Oklahoma ranch and soon after began posting recipes with sophisticated food photography in tow.

After penning a couple of books on her personal life and her love for food, her millions of loyal readers followed her to the Food Network in 2011 when

she launched her successful television series, The Pioneer Woman.

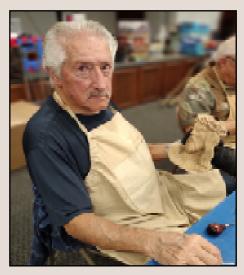
Drummond was born on January 6, 1969, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, as Anne Marie Smith. Wheels (2007), The Pioneer ("Ree" was her childhood nickname.)

After graduating high school, Drummond moved to Los Angeles and attended the University of Southern California Woman Cooks: A Year of where she majored in gerontology.

Although she was originally set Celebrations (2013) and The law degree, she dropped her plans and moved back to Oklahoma after meeting and

falling in love with her husbandto-be Ladd Drummond.

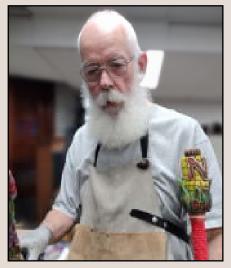
Drummond has authored a variety of books, among them Black Heels to Tractor Woman Cooks: Recipes from an Accidental Country Girl (2009), The Pioneer Woman Cooks: Food from My Frontier (2012), The Pioneer Holidays: 140 Step-by-Step Recipes for Simple, Scrumptious to move to Chicago to pursue her Pioneer Woman Cooks: The New Frontier: 112 Fantastic *Favorites for Everyday* Eating (2019).



Above, Paul McEvoy works on a wood carving of Jesus. He is one of many carvers who meet at the library Monday afternoons.



Above, Diane Ostdiek holds a wooden chain like the one her father taught her to carve.



Above, Larry Cook shows off one of the walking canes he embellished with a Nebraska Cornhusker carving.

Woodcarvers meet at library

Patti Jo Peterson

For 20 years or so, local woodcarvers have met on Mondays at the library to carve one-of-a-kind figurines, walking sticks and even intricate benches out of discarded wood.

Some are new to the group and some, such as Paul McEvoy, have been carving at the library for eight years or more.

"A friend of mine was a woodcarver. He thought I could do this and bought me a couple of tools. It's very relaxing," he said.

Some members were simply drawn to the craft on their own. "My wife and I went to Branson, Missouri," said Rich Kral. "It's a big place for woodcarving. When I went down there I bought \$150 in tools and started woodcarving on my own."

Woodcarver Rich Mahacek said he was waiting for his wife to come out of the library when McEvoy noticed him. He and McEvoy knew each other in high school and graduated in 1962 from South High School in Omaha. "Why don't you come in and carve with us," McEvoy said.

"I can't carve like you guys,"

Mahacek responded. Nonetheless, he decided to give it a try and has attended ever since.

The first tool to buy is a basic knife, Diane said. "A basic knife has a fixed blade. It's important to keep your knives sharp. It's important to cut

Artisan Jim Joyner said attendance and members vary year-to year. "It filtered down as we got new guys and the old ones left," he said.

Of course, their skill level varies with the length of time they've been involved in the craft. Diane Ostdiek started carving when she was eight years old.

"My dad had me carve a wooden chain. You have to know all the cuts to do a chain." Diane said.

Ostdiek comes with her husband Larry and their friends Lori Bliss and Susie Frieze. They are all from Gretna. Kral and Tim Reicks travel from Iowa.

Larry Cook enjoys carving walking sticks. "I've done a lot of them for veterans. I have no set patterns. I've learned a lot from these guys here," he said.

Frieze said carvers have to be carful when they use their sharp tools. ome wear protective gloves. Some even wear metal gloves made for meat cutters," she said.

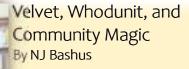
The first tool to buy is a basic knife, Diane said. "A basic knife has a fixed blade. It's important to keep your knives sharp. It's important to cut away from you and turn the wood upside down if you need to carve the other side, so your hands are out of the way."

Despite the possibility of cuts, she said carving is "a lot of fun".

The wood comes from a variety of sources. "Some is from old ditches," Frieze said. "Jim brought us some cottonwood bark. We also use cedar and butternut wood."

"You can see the grain in butternut, but it's hard to carve. Most of the time we carve basswood from different places. Basswood is soft and has a non-troublesome grain. You can also sand the wood or use a dremel tool," added Diane Ostsiek. "You can get it from different places. We know a guy who has a sawmill and he'll cut different sizes for us. You can also buy wood from a woodworking club."

The carvers meet at the library from 12-3pm every Monday. "Anyone interested in carving should come on down," Joyner said.



Look Back at Our Adult Victorian Murder Mystery

Last Saturday evening, the library briefly slipped through time and went straight into an era of rustling skirts, feathered hats, capes, and an assortment of very dramatic accessories while a dozen-and-a-half curious minds gathered for our first Adult Victorian Murder Mystery.

teen of us in all (including aff!) took part in the delightful aos of pizza, beverages, suspinn, laughter, and bold accusans. The real stars behind the enes were our neighbors with the street at the attsmouth Community Cosme Closet. The Closet turned present-day patrons and staff to Victorian Style characters, stuming them into skirts, sistcoats, hats, varying decess of lace, and accessories.

n addition to costuming patrons for the event they gained some new volunteers—people inspired to help prepare for Victorian Christmas on Main (coming aturday, December 6th!). Perfect timing, too, since the holiday season tends to arrive in a whirlwind—or, in true Victorian ashion, a flurry of tulle, top hats, and festive cheer.

A room full of history, storytelling, lace, linens, top hats, and mystery.

hat is something rare.

That is something special.

That is something we get to

have.

Most towns and cities have clothing donation centers or thrift stores, and we are fortunate to have several wonderful ones right here in Plattsmouth serving our community beautifully, but a Community Costume Closet, one that specializes in historical and period attire, managed by volunteers, and used specifically to support community cultural events, is extremely rare.

It is not just a storage space of old dresses—it's:

- A curated, intentional collection
- Maintained by volunteers who know their history
- Used to bring local events to life
- Focused on community connection rather than profit The keepers of the Closet—the wonderful women who have been sewing, preserving, mending, sorting, costuming, and storytelling for years and have carried the love of history and tradition through seasons of change and our community is now reaching one of those generational "handing of the torch" moments.

Not a crisis.

Not a tragedy.

Just an invitation.

If we want Victorian magic, the gowns, the lore, the laughter, and the perfectly placed hats & bonnets to continue, it will take all of us: a little curiosity, a little time, and a willingness to learn how to pin a cape without stabbing anyone (it happens).

History doesn't stay alive on its own-people keep it alive.

- Mysteries solved
- Capes returned in one piece
- New volunteers ready to jump in
- Clues still lost in the library stacks

And here's to a community that knows how to have fun with a little history sprinkled on top!

More Victorian mysteries are on the horizon. The next one will be January 24!







Ghostly Good Fun at Plattsmouth Middle School!

By N.J. Bashus

Tuesday, October 21st. Plattsmouth Public Library's Youth Services Librarian (that's me, Ms. Tasha!) kicked off another year of creative collaboration with Mrs. Little and the students of Plattsmouth Middle School. This month's project? Ghost Self-Portraits! A charmingly eerie art trend currently floating through TikTok like a friendly specter searching for its moment to shine. And shine it did! We welcomed well over 50 students, along with a few parents and the occasional curious observer who drifted in and out like gentle spirits, drawn by the glow of creativity. The room buzzed with chatter, laughter, and that special kind of creative chaos that lets you know something truly magical is happening.

This marks the beginning

of my third year collaborating with the everwonderful Mrs. Little,
and each time we begin
again, I am reminded of
comething truly magical: a strong community
a living, breathing
spell we cast together.
It is in the way we show
up for our youth—not
ust in big, grand gestures, but also in the
try, everyday ones.

We share our spaces. We share our talents. We share laughter (and sometimes glue sticks). We share joy.

When our library and school link arms like this, we become more than just buildings with books and hallways with lockers—we become a constellation of grown-ups quietly and lovingly lighting the way for young people to shine. That is the kind of enchantment no ghost, ghoul, or goblin could ever hope to top.

Our next collaborative library adventure at Plattsmouth Middle School will be on December 10th! Expect more whimsy, more wonder, and perhaps a little Holiday mischief (the good kind). More details soon! Until then, keep imagining, keep creating, and keep haunting the world with your brilliance. Because, as it turns out...

Books are not the only things that can stay with you—

A truly magical library moment can, too.











































YOUTH SERVICES & BEYOND

INVENT • INSPIRE • IMAGINE • EXPLORE PLATTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY'S Saturday, Dec. 13th 10:30-12 Come visit Mr. & Mrs. Claus at the library. have your face painted, pick out a balloon, or do a fun craft or activity. Refreshments provided.



creativity with this hands-on experience where you'll create a beautiful floral bouquet using frosh flowers and a recycled book. Limited spots available, Register today by scanning the



New Items

Fiction

Ahriman eternal by French, John Alchemised by SenLinYu And to all a good bite by Rosenfelt, David Blind date with a werewolf by Briggs, Patricia Bog queen by North, Anna Calder strong by Dailey, Janet Christmas at the women's hotel by Lavery, Daniel M. Circle of days by Follett, Ken Conform by Sullivan, Ariel

Circle of days by Follett, Ken Conform by Sullivan, Ariel Cry havoc by Carr, Jack Deadly storms by Feehan, Christine

Denied access by Bentley, Don The devil she knows by Bellefleur, Alexandria Dinner at the night library by Harada, Hika

The dogs of Venice by Rowley, Steven

Don't say a word by Brennan, Allison

End game by Archer, Jeffrey Fallen star by Goldberg, Lee Fear the flames by Darling, Olivia Rose

A ferry merry Christmas by Macomber, Debbie Ghost business by DeLuca, Jen The girl from Devil's Lake by Jance, Judith A. Gone before goodbye by

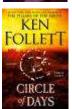
Witherspoon, Reese The grave artist by Deaver, Jeffery

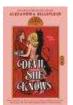
Avery

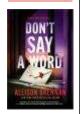
A guardian and a thief by Majumdar, Megha The haunting of Paynes Hollow by Armstrong, Kelley Head witch in charge by Flynn,





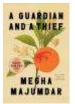












Herculine by Byron, Grace
Holiday ever after by Grace,
Hannah

The impossible fortune by Osman, Richard
In the time of five pumpkins by

In the time of five pumpkins by McCall Smith, Alexander The intruder by McFadden, Freida The Irish goodbye by O'Neill, Heather Aimee

A killer wedding by O'Leary, Joan The killing stones by Cleeves, Ann King Sorrow by Hill, Joe The last letter by Yarros, Rebecca Marrow by Shea, Samantha Browning

Mate by Hazelwood, Ali A matter of pedigree by Meier, Leslie

A murder in Paris by Blake, Matthew

My beloved by Karon, Jan My name was Eden by Barker-White, Eleanor

The night ends with fire by Song, K. X.

The Nightshade god by Whitten, Hannah

Overdue by Perkins, Stephanie The Picasso heist by Patterson, James

Pitcher perfect by Bailey, Tessa The portrait by Steel, Danielle The primal of blood and bone by Armentrout, Jennifer L.

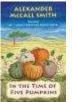
The proving ground by Connelly, Michael

The Pumpkin Spice Café by Gilmore, Laurie Red city by Lu, Marie Remain: a supernatural love story

by Sparks, Nicholas
Santa's holiday spectacular by

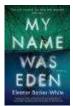
Michaels, Fern



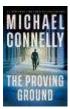


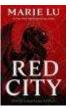












Continued from previous page.

New Items

Fiction (Continued...)

Schemes & scandals by Armstrong, Kelley Shadow ticket by Pynchon, Thomas

Sharp force by Cornwell, Patricia Daniels

The Silver Hills Boarding House by Miller, Linda Lael

A slowly dying cause by George, Elizabeth

Snow kissed by Thayne, RaeAnne Soul searching by Sage, Lyla Spread me by Gailey, Sarah Stone cold by Parker, Robert B. Sugar and spite by Beaton, M. C. The Texas Hill Country by Johnstone, William W. This inevitable ruin by Dinniman, Matt

To the moon and back by Ramage, Eliana Uncharmed by Wood, Lucy Jane The war of two queens by Armentrout, Jennifer L. What stalks the deep by Kingfisher, T. What we can know by McEwan,

Ian
The widow by Grisham, John
Wild reverence by Ross, Rebecca
The witching moon manor by
Sivinski, Stacy
The women of Wild Hill by
Miller, Kirsten

Workhorse by Palmer, Caroline

Large Print

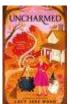
Circle of days by Follett, Ken A ferry merry Christmas by Macomber, Debbie The four engagement rings of Sybil Rain by Brown, Hannah



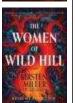














The girl from Devil's Lake by Jance, Judith A.
Gone before goodbye by Witherspoon, Reese
The housemaid by McFadden, Freida

The impossible fortune by Osman, Richard

The inmate by McFadden, Freida The locked door by McFadden, Freida

Matchmaking for psychopaths by Coryell, Tasha

Never lie by McFadden, Freida One by one by McFadden, Freida The portrait by Steel, Danielle Sharp force by Cornwell, Patricia Daniels

The teacher by McFadden, Freida The tenant by McFadden, Freida The widow by Grisham, John The woman in suite 11 by Ware, Ruth

Non-Fiction

107 days by Harris, Kamala
The anthropology book by DK
The art of spending money by
Housel, Morgan
Bad b*tch in the kitch by Yeung,
Cassie
The complete folk herbal by Beyer,

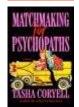
Rebecca Curious coffins and riveting rituals by Liak, Y.Y.

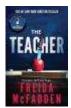
Disrupt everything, and win by Patterson, James

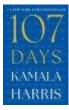
Every valley by King, Charles Future boy by Fox, Michael J. Giving up is unforgivable by Vance, Joyce

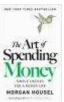
Good things by Nosrat, Samin Listening to the law by Barrett, Amy Coney

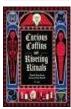














Continued from previous page.

New Items

Non-Fictiton (Continued...)

Mission driven by Hayes, Mike Under siege by Trump, Eric

Audiobooks

Billion-dollar ransom by Patterson, James Denied access by Bentley, Don Whistle by Barclay, Linwood

Videos

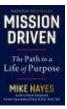
1923 : a Yellowstone origin story. Season two Barron's Cove The Boys. Season 4 The curse of Oak Island. Season 2 Freaky tales Friendship How to train your dragon Jurassic World. Rebirth Justified. City primeval. Season 1 Karate kid: legends Let's start a cult Lilo & Stitch Neighborhood watch Nobody 2 Sovereign Spartacus. Gods of the arena. The complete collection When calls the heart. Season 12 You. Seasons 1-4

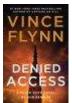
Beginning Reader

Camping out by Marsoli, Lisa Ann

Easy Books

Autumn story by Barklem, Jill Beach bummer by Higgins, Ryan The grumpy ghost upstairs by Shiotani, Mamiko Humpty Dumpty's holiday stories In the autumn forest by Kulot, Daniela













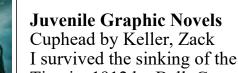




Just like dad by Mayer, Gina Squash & Pumpkin: #squashgoals by McQueen, G. G.

Juvenile Fiction

Fudge-a-mania by Blume, Judy Howliday Inn by Howe, James Mercy Watson goes for a ride by DiCamillo, Kate The mystery at Lilac Inn by Keene, Carolyn



Titanic, 1912 by Ball, Georgia
Quantum possum by Gallois, Gina

Juvenile Non-Fiction

Haunted U.S.A. by Alexander, Heather

The homework squad's ADHD guide to school success by Shifrin, Joshua G.

Little woodchucks by Offerman, Nick

Minecraft. Redstone Handbook by Farwell, Nick The story of money by Maestro,

Teen Fiction

Betsy

It happened in the hollow by Stanley, Brenda Children by Riggs, Ransom Prophecies by DeRosa, G. K.

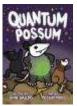
Graphic Novels

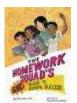
Canto. Volume 1, If I only had a heart by Booher, David Gachiakuta V.1-3 by Urana, Kei















A complete list of new titles can be found on our web site, www.plattsmouthlibrary.org, under New Titles.

NOVEMBER

Program Color Guide

Black & Red= Adult 19+
Green= General Public/Family
Blue= Ages 0-6
Pink= Grades 1st-4th
Purple= 4th-8th
Orange= 7th-12th

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Book Club 10am *Teen Murder Mystery 5-7pm
2	3 Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	4 Library Hours 9-6 NO Preschool Storytime!	5 Library Hours 9-6 NO YOUTH BINGO!	6 Storytime 10-10:30am	7 Friday Friends 9:30-11:30am	8 Saturday Storytime 10:30am
9	Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	Library Closed	Adult Bingo 1:30-2:30pm Andean Folk Music & Culture 6-7:30 pm	13 Storytime 10-10:30am	14 Library Café 9:30-11:00am	15
16	17 Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Friends Meeting 5:30 Monday Madness 6-9pm	Storytime 10-10:30am Fall for Reading Book Raffle Begins! Nov. 18th- Dec.12th	Paws for Reading 4:30-5:30pm	Storytime 10-10:30am Manga Club 4:30-5:30pm	Friday Friends 9:30-11:30am	Saturday Storytime 10:30am Video Game Day 1-3:30pm *Youth Night 5-7:30pm
23	24 Little Beats 9:30-10am Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	Storytime 10-10:30am	Library Board Meeting 5:30pm	Library Closed	Library Closed	29 Book Club 10am