



BETWEEN THE PAGES

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

Phone 402-296-4154 Fax 402-296-4712

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July 2026

Friends of the Library annual

BOOK SALE

**Saturday, July 25 to
Friday, August 28**

in the auditorium

Hours of operation

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday Noon - 4 p.m.



Pre-owned books, puzzles,
games, audiobooks, DVDs
and CDs



BETTER: TOGETHER

Patti Jo Peterson

Better Together Wellness Program is well underway helping youth understand themselves and work at dealing with the challenges they face.

Christian Thomas is leading the program which “encourages wellness, communication and providing education and tools, not just for kids, but for the families who are struggling here,” she said. It kicked off June 2.

The program serves all of Cass County with groups currently meeting at Plattsmouth Public Library. Thomas has experience with both sides of the issues, because she too struggled with family problems and health in her youth.

“I was eight years old when I was diagnosed with ADHD (Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder). Educators told my parents not to bring me back to school until I was medicated. That eventually lead me down a bad path,” Thomas explained. “My teachers felt ‘I was just too much.’”

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a neurodevelopmental condition with symptoms categorized into three main presentations: inattention, hyperactivity and impulsivity.

While severity and manifestation vary across individuals, these behaviors typically cause significant challenges in daily functioning, school, work and relationships

By age 21, Thomas was jailed for two years for stealing from Walmart. “It changed the direction of my life,” she said.

After being released, Thomas enrolled in and completed the Douglas County Mental Health Diversion program. The program is designed to help those that come in contact with the legal system as a result of their

Program helping kids underway



mental health. Thomas now is in her 16th year of recovery.

In the program, a participant is paired with a case manager to help identify his or her individual needs.

“We will work to connect you with mental health services and supports, housing resources, develop some type of structured daily routine, and provide education on a number of topics that you will benefit from. Navigating the legal system can be challenging at times and your case manager will be there to help you along the way,” the website states.

Through the program, Thomas was introduced to peer support.

“My case worker taught me. I didn’t even know how to type or put gas in my car. My peer support encouraged me to help others,” she said.

Thomas is now supportive of youth going through hard times like she did. “My peer support encouraged me to help others. I have a passion for helping,” she said.

The Better Together WRAP program lasts four weeks. WRAP is an acronym for Wellness, Recovery, Action and Planning. “We focus on all dimensions of wellness,” she said. “It’s not telling

them what to do. It’s my job to show them different ways to help when they decide what they want to do.”

WRAP stresses having hope and self-advocacy. “At 12 years of age you should know what medications you are taking and why you are taking them.”

The program concentrates on eight aspects of wellness including physical, emotional, social, occupational, financial, environmental, intellectual and spiritual. “Spiritual is discovering purpose in life for whatever works for them.”

The plans evolve as the individual changes. “WRAP plans can change when they change by giving and receiving encouragement from family and peers,” Thomas said.

She encourages parents to take part in the program. “I like being able to show the parents a wellness plan that the kids created,” she said. “Kids come out better together,” she said.

Better Together groups meeting at the library are **KIDS**, 4th-8th grades, Tuesdays 4-5:30 p.m.; **TEENS**, 7th-12th grades, Wednesdays 6-7:30 p.m.; and **ADULTS AND CAREGIVERS** Saturdays, 10-11:30 a.m.



Robert Livingston



Roger Sherman



Ben Franklin



Samuel Adams



Thomas Jefferson

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.—Preamble to the U.S. Constitution with its original wording and punctuation.

Writer explains greatest sentence ever written

Patti Jo Peterson

In anticipation of the U.S. 250th birthday, Walter Isaacson authored “The Greatest Sentence Ever Written”, published by Simon and Schuster in November 2025.

It carefully defines and gives historical notes about each word in the preamble to the U.S. Constitution.

Continental Congress appointed the Committee of Five to draft it. Its members included Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston.

These members studied John Locke’s 1689 Second Treatise of Government, Scottish philosopher David Hume’s 1748 essay “Of the Original Contract” and Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s 1762 book, *The Social Contract*, as well as other works while, drafting this extraordinary document which shaped our nation in 1787.

Over a four-month period of time, these men edited and reworded it until they “got it right.” Isaacson’s book explains the context of each word and some of the flaws its drafters had.

For example, Isaacson points out that Jefferson’s original draft “called the slave trade ‘a cruel war against human nature’ and resoundingly

condemned King George III for imposing it on the colonies.”

Despite these words, Jefferson owned more than 600 men, women and children, including his mistress. Adams, however was against slavery but did not favor its abolition, writing in a letter to a friend that “the subject is too dangerous to be touched in public.”

Nonetheless, at that time “all men are created to be equal” only included white men.

Isaacson explains that Adams’ wife Abigail spoke against the Southern slaveholding delegates’ “pretensions to liberty are a mockery: when they hold “hundreds in chains.” She even called out Jefferson for practicing slavery.

Franklin also became increasingly outspoken against slavery in the 1770s. He wrote that “the duty of Congress was to secure ‘the blessings of liberty to the People of the United States,’ and this should be done ‘without distinction of color.’”

Isaacson fills the entire book with information on their efforts, personal beliefs and conflicts.

With July 4th just over this month, it’s a great read for understanding the work that went into the authorship of our U.S. Constitution.

Other works by Isaacson are *Steve Jobs*, *American Sketches*, *Einstein-His Life and Universe*.

Youth Services & Beyond



Hanging with Cops: Building Relationships One Conversation at a Time

by N.J. Bashus

Now in its fourth summer, *Hanging with Cops* has become much more than a library program—it has become a community tradition. Each year, we welcome local law enforcement into the library to create opportunities for genuine conversation, shared experiences, and meaningful connections. Whether participants stop by to play games,

ask questions, or simply say hello, every visit helps build stronger relationships throughout our community.

When children, teens, and adults have opportunities to get to know the people behind the badge, it helps foster trust, understanding, and open dialogue that extends far beyond the walls of the library.

Just as we often see patrol vehicles parked along busy roadways as a friendly reminder to slow down and drive safely, having officers regularly visit community spaces can serve a similar purpose. Their presence isn't simply about enforcement; it's about visibility, approachability, and helping create an environment where everyone feels comfortable, respected, and safe. Libraries are gathering places for people of all ages, and partnerships like this help reinforce the idea that creating positive community spaces is a shared responsibility.

Programs like these remind us that strong communities are



not just built in grand moments but also through small, consistent acts of connection. Every conversation shared, game played, question answered, and laugh exchanged helps transform strangers into neighbors. When children, teens, and adults have the opportunity to know the people behind the badge, not simply the uniform, they begin to cultivate trust, empathy, and understanding. Those relationships ripple far beyond the library's walls, strengthening the social fabric that binds our community together.



Laser Cutter Training

The library's laser cutter etches a wide range of materials, including wood, glass, ceramic tiles, cork, and metal, and is available to anyone who completes a one-hour training session.

- ✓ No Library Card Needed
- ✓ Etches a Variety of Materials
- ✓ Quick, One-Hour Training

Contact us
to schedule your
appointment today.

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Ext. 1124



Youth Services & Beyond



Monster Makers Take Over the Library!

By NJ Bashus

This summer, the Plattsmouth Public Library transformed into a mad scientist's workshop as young creators stitched, stuffed, glued, and imagined their very own delightfully bizarre monsters during our Monster Makers: Fuggler Workshop.

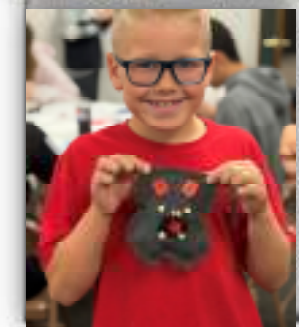
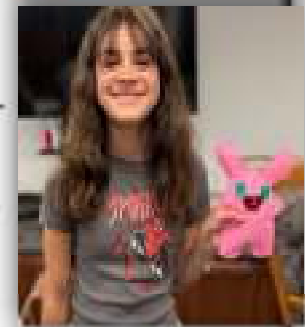
If you've never encountered a Fuggler, you're in for a surprise! These hilarious "funny-ugly" plush monsters are famous for their wonderfully weird personalities, complete with unsettling human-like teeth, wide vacant eyes, and just enough oddball charm to make you smile. Originally created by a British artist who turned a bag of novelty dentures into a one-of-a-kind creature. Fugglers have grown into a wildly popular collectible—and have provided the perfect inspiration for one of Ms. Tasha's newest Tweens and Teens programs to offer as part of the summer programming lineup at the library.

Over the course of three workshops, more than 60 participants joined us to bring their own quirky creatures to life. No two monsters were alike. Some were adorable, some were hilariously creepy, some had far too many eyes, and others looked like they had wandered straight out of a child's imagination—and that was exactly the point.

Programs like Monster Makers remind us that today's libraries are so much more than places to borrow books. They are spaces where creativity flourishes, friendships form, confidence is built, and imaginations are celebrated. Every stitch sewn, every piece and googly eye glued, and every crooked tooth represented something much bigger than a craft project; it represented a community coming together to make, laugh, create, and connect.

Watching the youth of varying ages, with their parents and caregivers, produce wonderfully weird creations was a beautiful reminder that learning doesn't always happen with a book in your hands. Sometimes it happens with a handful of fabric scraps, a hot glue gun, a pair of novelty teeth, and the freedom to simply create.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this unforgettable monster-making adventure. Judging by the laughter, creativity, and wonderfully mischievous monsters that walked out our doors, we have a feeling the Fugglers may have found a permanent home here at the library!



Youth Services & Beyond

Third Annual Firehouse Visit Continues to Build Library Community Connections

By N.J. Bashus

One of my favorite parts of serving as a Youth Services Librarian is watching traditions take root within our community. This summer marked the Third Annual Firehouse Visit as part of our Summer Reading Program, and once again it reminded me just how powerful community partnerships can be. With more than 50 participants joining us, the morning was filled with curiosity, laughter, learning, and plenty of smiling faces.

The adventure began right here at the library, where everyone gathered for a special storytime with our good friend, Fireman Bob. Before we ever stepped foot inside the fire station, Fireman Bob shared a wonderful story with our families. It's always a joy to see children gathered around a book, completely captivated, and this storytime served as the perfect reminder that reading can lead us anywhere, even to the local fire station!

Following storytime, our group walked to the Plattsmouth Vol-



important safety tips. The excitement continued with a guided tour of the fire station, opportunities to explore the fire trucks and ambulances, and plenty of chances to ask questions. For many of our young visitors, seeing the equipment up close and even climbing aboard the trucks was undoubtedly the highlight of the day.

Although this was the third year we've offered the Firehouse Visit as part of our Summer Reading lineup, one thing stood out more than ever this year: there were so many new faces. It was incredibly encouraging to welcome families who were experiencing this tradition for the very first time. Over the past several months, we've also had the pleasure of issuing a remarkable number of new library cards, welcoming new readers and families into the library community. Seeing those new cardholders show up for programs like this is exciting because it reminds us that our library continues to grow alongside the community we serve.

As someone who has spent nearly a decade working in public libraries, I've learned that some of the most meaningful moments happen outside the library walls. While books remain at the heart of everything we

do, programs like our Firehouse Visit demonstrate that libraries are also connectors. We connect families with community partners, children with positive role models, and learning with real-world experiences. These shared moments create lasting memories while strengthening the relationships that help make Plattsmouth such a special place to call home.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Fireman Bob and the entire Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services for once again opening your doors, sharing your time, and investing in the families of our community. Your enthusiasm, kindness, and dedication continue to make this one of the most anticipated events of our Summer Reading Program.



unteer Fire Department, where Fireman Bob welcomed everyone and gave a brief presentation on fire safety. Children and caregivers learned



Youth Services & Beyond



Discovering Nebraska's Wild Side

This summer, families had the opportunity to attend educational presentations!

We were thrilled to welcome Lauren Salick, Education Director with Nebraska Wildlife Rehab, for an engaging presentation on “Bats of Nebraska”. Lauren introduced participants to the fascinating world of Nebraska's only flying mammals, dispelling common myths while exploring bat biology, their remarkable adaptations, and the many ways these often-misunderstood creatures can benefit our ecosystem. Participants also explored the concept of biomimicry in the “Shells to Shuttles” program, discovering how scientists and engineers study nature's designs to solve real-world challenges,

even inspiring innovations used in space exploration. Through education and wildlife rehabilitation, Nebraska Wildlife Rehab continues to inspire appreciation for Nebraska's native wildlife while encouraging all of us to become better stewards of the world around us.

We were also delighted to welcome back one of our favorite returning presenters, Adam Sutton, Youth Environmental Educator with the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, for the third consecutive summer. Many of our young patrons were excited to reunite with Dart and Delta, the tiger salamanders that have become beloved ambassadors for Nebraska's native wildlife. Once common throughout much of Nebraska, tiger salamanders have experienced population declines in many areas as wetlands have disappeared, habitats have become fragmented, and environmental pressures have increased. Seeing these remarkable amphibians up close gives children and adults alike a rare opportunity to appreciate a species many may never encounter in the wild while learning why protecting wetlands and healthy ecosystems is so

important.

Returning for their second summer were the always-entertaining baby snapping turtles, Snowflake and Pasta. Of course, one of the highlights of the presentation wasn't just meeting the turtles; it was the spirited debate over whether Snowflake's name should be officially changed to "Meatball!" Judging by the laughter in the room, there may still be a few votes waiting to be counted.

By partnering with organizations like Nebraska Wildlife Rehab and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District, we're able to introduce our community to the incredible wildlife that calls Nebraska home while inspiring the next generation to value conservation and



New Items

Fiction

The dead girl in 2A by Wilson, Carter

A deadly episode by Horowitz, Anthony

Dear Debbie by McFadden, Freida

Death by chocolate ladyfingers by Graves, Sarah

Death times seven by Perry, Anne

Death's daughter by Barnes, S. A

Detective aunty by Jalaluddin, Uzma

Dire bound by Sorensen, Sable

The divorce by McFadden, Freida

The duke by Cowan, Anna

Eldritch by Lake, Keri

The final target by Roberts, Nora

First and forever by Painter, Lynn

The foursome by Kline, Christina Baker

The fourth option : a thriller by Carr, Jack

The franchise by Elrod, Thomas

Fury bound by Sorensen, Sable

Ghost town by Perrotta, Tom

The girl with a thousand faces by Dean, Sunyi

Given by Gallea, Elayna R

Go gentle by Semple, Maria

Happy ending by Liese, Chloe

Hench by Walschots, Natalie Zina

Her soul to take by Laroux, Harley

Homebound by Elan, Portia

Hope rises by Baldacci, David

House of beating wings by Wildenstein, Olivia

How to cheat your own death by Perrin, Kristen

I, spy by Kemp, L. M

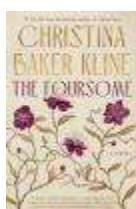
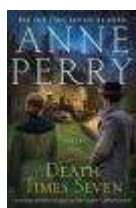
In the spirit of French murder by Cambridge, Colleen

Ironwood by Connelly, Michael

It should have been you by Mara, Andrea

Japanese gothic by Baker, Kylie Lee

John of John by Stuart, Douglas



Killing me softly by Jones, Sandie

The knight and the moth by Gillig, Rachel

The last Mandarin by Penny, Louise

Last one out by Harper, Jane (Jane Elizabeth)

Leave your mess at home by Akinola, Tolani

Lights out by Allen, Navessa

Lone Star legacy by Johnstone, William W

The lumber baron's wife by Austin, Lynn N

The mad wife by Church, Meagan

The May house by Cantor, Jillian

Mist and malice : a Haven thriller by Hall, Rachel Howzell

Molka by Kim, Monika

Moonlight murder by Jalaluddin, Uzma

The Mother-Daughter Book Club by Patterson, Susan

Ms. Mebel goes back to the chopping block by Sutanto, Jesse Q

Murder at the castle by Miller, C. L. (Cara L.)

Murder on Brittany shores by Bannalec, Jean-Luc

On the Royle Range by Johnstone, William W

The one day you were my husband by Walsh, Rosie

An ordinary sort of evil by Armstrong, Kelley

Our perfect storm by Fortune, Carley

Palaces of the crow by Nayler, Ray

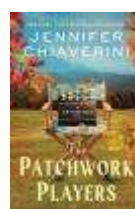
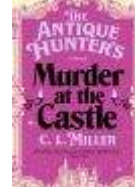
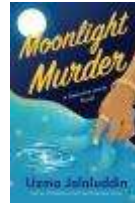
A parade of horrors by Dinniman, Matt

The Parisian chapter by Skeslien Charles, Janet

The patchwork players by Chiaverini, Jennifer

Pomona Afton can totally catch a killer by Rose, Bellamy

Rites of the starling by Perry, Devney



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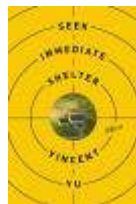
New Items

Fiction (Continued...)

Rules of engagement by Larsen, Ward
 The sapphire sea by Bunn, T. Davis
 A sea glass Christmas by Bunn, T. Davis
 Seek immediate shelter by Yu, Vincent
 Shield of sparrows by Perry, Devney
 The shippers by Center, Katherine
 Starside by Aster, Alex
 The subtle art of folding space by Chu, John
 Summer state of mind by Harvey, Kristy Woodson
 Take me with you by Rowley, Steven
 The things we never say by Strout, Elizabeth
 This weekend doesn't end well for anyone by Mack, Catherine
 The throne of broken gods by Nicole, Amber V
 The traitor queen by Jensen, Danielle L
 Two kinds of stranger by Cavanagh, Steve
 Verity guild by Corland, Mai
 Villain by Walschots, Natalie Zina
 We burned so bright by Klune, TJ
 West of wicked by St. Crowe, Nikki
 The whispers by Audrain, Ashley
 The wish by Morris, Heather
 The Yankee Sphinx : an FDR novel by Frost, Mark
 Yesteryear by Burke, Caro Claire
 The young will remember by Chung, Eve J

Large Print

An amateur sleuth's guide to murder by Cahoon, Lynn
 And then there was the one by Waters, Martha
 Braska by Dundee, Wayne D
 Death at a firefly tea by Childs, Laura



Everybody has a gun by Johnstone, William W

The final storm by Michaels, Fern
 Harbor pointe by Hannon, Irene
 The hired man by Dallas, Sandra
 Hope rises by Baldacci, David
 Ironwood by Connelly, Michael
 Keeper of lost children by Johnson, Sadeqa
 Kill for a million by Dailey, Janet
 The last Mandarin by Penny, Louise
 Lonesome ridge by Yates, Maisey
 The man from Blood Gulch by Johnstone, William W
 Mistakes were made by Score, Lucy
 The news from Dublin by Tóibín, Colm

Revenge prey by Sandford, John
 February

These men chose hell by Johnstone, William W

Want to know a secret? by McFadden, Freida

Whiteout by Eason, Lynette

Yours truly by Jimenez, Abby

Non-Fiction

The 30-day inflammatory reset by Redd, Josh

100 vibrant granny squares by Krenz, Diana

America's founding myths ...and what really happened! by Mihaly, Christy

Amigurumi crochet patterns for beginners by Gordon, Nancy

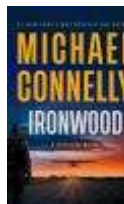
The case for America : an argument on behalf of our nation by Baier, Bret

The cat encyclopedia.

Cells by Sardet, Christian

Creative modern crochet for the home by Djevdet, Lucy

The criminal law handbook by Bergman, Paul



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New Items**Non-Fiction (Continued...)**

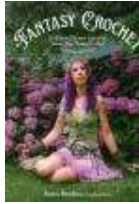
Crochet baby blankets by Pierce, Val
 Crochet fairy tales by Lord, Kerry
 Dangerous, dirty, violent, and young by Dohrn, Zayd
 Fantasy crochet by Bertolina, Jessica
 Happy Nordic knits by Oksvold, Une Cecilie
 Honest motherhood by Ward, Libby
 Knits to wear by Lindberg, Veronika
 A marriage at sea by Elmhirst, Sophie
 Nobody wants your sh*t by Condo, Messie
 Nordic sailors' & fishermen's sweaters by Rahbek, Lotte
 Oceanology.
 Random acts of crochet kindness by Dieterich, Olivia
 Science of swimming by Hawke, Brett
 A sheepdog named Oscar by Waldron, Dara
 Summer knits by Trettevik, Ida Wirak
 True crime by Cornwell, Patricia Daniels
 Young King by Martin, Lerone
 Young man in a hurry by Newsom, Gavin

Teen Fiction

House of lies and sorrow by Blackwood, Emily
 Lightbringer by Legrand, Claire

Graphic Novels

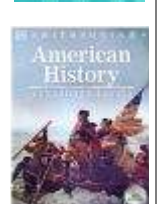
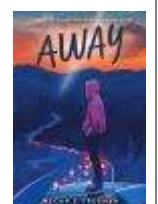
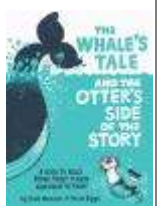
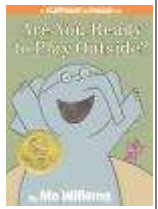
Dungeon Crawler Carl V. 1 by Dinniman, Matt
 Lord of the flies by Jongh, Aimée de

**Board Books**

Beautiful oops! by Saltzberg, Barney

Easy

Are you ready to play outside? by Willems, Mo
 The invisible string by Karst, Patrice
 Mama's sleeping scarf by GraceJames, Nwa
 Maya's world by Pippins, Andrea
 Mix it up! by Tullet, Hervé
 Pizzasaurus by Sauer, Tammi
 The whale's tale and the otter's side of the story by Messner, Kate
 The wildest thing by Martin, Emily Winfield

**Juvenile Fiction**

Away by Freeman, Megan E
 Diary of a wimpy kid : the getaway by Kinney, Jeff
 Don't trust the nacho hamster by Thomas, Ryan
 Don't trust the nacho hamster : too cheesy by Thomas, Ryan
 Dragon diaries. 3, Test flight by Alber, Diane
 First haircut by Alber, Diane
 Growing home by Ferry, Beth
 Kpop demon hunters by Yoon, Jessica
 Purple space chickens : Mysterious bracelet by Alber, Diane
 Stay small by Alber, Diane
 Tiny and Mighty : sock rescue by Alber, Diane

Juvenile Graphic Novels

Sloomoo. Making friends by De la Cruz, Melissa

Juvenile NonFiction

American history by King, David C
 Land of the free : America's ABC by Scillian, Devin

Free Passes to Area Attractions

The library has free passes to Lauritzen Gardens, Durham Museum, and Fontenelle Forest and Neale Woods. These library passes must be checked out and returned within one week. The only thing you need is a library card in good standing - no overdue fines or overdue materials.



Our phone
number is
402-296-4154



UNPLUG & UNWIND

BOARD GAME NIGHT
**MONDAYS,
6-9PM**



Take a break from the screens and join us for an evening of board games! Whether you're a seasoned strategist or just here for the laughs, there's a seat for you at the table. Bring a friend or meet a new one. All ages welcome, and no registration needed. Just come play!

@The Plattsmouth Public Library
401 Avenue A

JULY

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
28	29 Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	30 Summer Reading Community Wonder Days 10:30-11:30 Tween (4th-8th) Peer Group 4-5pm	1 Youth Bingo 4-5pm Teen (7th-12th) Peer Group 6-7pm	2 Storytime 10-10:30 Hanging with Cops 10:30-11:30	3 LIBRARY CLOSED	4 LIBRARY CLOSED
5 LIBRARY CLOSED	6 Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	7 Tween (4th-8th) Peer Group 4-5pm	8 Summer Art Workshop 10:30-11:30pm Brain Games 1-2pm Teen (7th-12th) Peer Group 6-7pm	9 Storytime 10-10:30 Hanging with Cops 10:30-11:30	10	11 Parent Support Group 10-11:30
12	13 Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	14	15 Brain Games 1-2pm Diamond Painting Bookmarks 5-6:30pm	16 Storytime 10-10:30 Hanging with Cops 10:30-11:30	17 Tween & Teen Art with Anna 3-4pm	18 Parent Support Group 10-11:30 Pressed Flower Bookmarks 1-3pm Youth Night 5-7pm
19	20 Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	21 Tween (4th-8th) Peer Group 4-5pm	22	23 Storytime 10-10:30	24 Stuffy Sleepover Drop-off 4-6pm	25 Parent Support Group 10-11:30 Stuffy Pick Up & Read with Donuts 10:30am FOL Book Sale 9-4pm
26 FOL Book Sale 12-4pm	27 FOL Book Sale 9-8pm Carvers 12-3pm Monday Madness 6-9pm	28 FOL Book Sale 9-8pm Tween (4th-8th) Peer Group 4-5pm	29 FOL Book Sale 9-8pm Teen (7th-12th) Peer Group 6-7pm	30 FOL Book Sale 9-8pm Storytime 10-10:30	31 FOL Book Sale 9-5pm	AUG 1 FOL Book Sale 9-4pm