**Big Steps Forward in a Leap Year**

**EVEN BEFORE** February 29 arrived last year, YDL took another step toward completing its Strategic Plan of 2007-2010 with the purchase of the Navigator. The second bookmobile in the library’s fleet immediately hit the road circulatng 22,354 books and other materials while making 1,344 stops along the way.

Several other items in the Strategic Plan were also implemented last year. The Ypsilanti District Library Board approved a construction contract for a full-service coffee shop to be completed this spring. Hours at YDL-Superior were expanded and library usage there soared to 18,562 in 2008. An intranet for YDL staff was also developed. In addition, the Board approved a marketing plan to engage the underserved populations of the district.

This year, YDL plans to enhance the library’s role as a community art resource and to redesign its website to become a functional virtual library.

**YDL’S TOP 10 REASONS TO GET A SMART CARD**

1. **Set in front of a curling fire as you read.**
2. **Read and check in a YDL community room.**
3. **Find out how to change that spark plug on the car.**
4. **Take in an art display while you’re checking out a book.**
5. **Meet a famous author.**
6. **Sit in front of a crackling fire as you read.**
7. **Challenge someone to a chess match.**
8. **Make a friend in a book group or become one in Friends of YDL.**
9. **Use YDL resources to apply for a job or update your resume.**
10. **Get 300,000 of your favorite intellectual pursuits along the way.**

**YDL’S TO P 10 REASON S TO GET**

- **Read a book in your native language.**
- **Challenge someone to a chess match.**
- **Make a friend in a book group or become one in Friends of YDL.**
- **Use YDL resources to apply for a job or update your resume.**
- **And the number one reason to get a Smart Card?**
  - **Cut $150,000 of your favorite intellectual pursuits FREE!**

**OPERATING FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2008**

**REVENUE**

- Property Taxes: $3,080,81 80% Salaries: $2,529,941 60%
- Federal Funds: $164,332 4% Library Materials: $610,394 14%
- State Aid: $32,314 1% Contractual: $405,617 45%
- Internet & Other: $221,903 5% Auto. Carrier OUtlay: $240,640 63%
- State Deposits/Refunds: $49,891 1% Library Supplies: $39,086 7%
- State Revenue Sharing: $8,022 0% Other: $29,044 55%
- Total: $4,308,115 100% $4,240,120 100%

This budget is an audited statement of total revenues and expenses for the fiscal year beginning December 1, 2007 and ending November 30, 2008.

**Our Mission:** As a community resource, our mission is to enrich life, stimulate intellectual curiosity, foster literacy and encourage an informed citizenry.

**2008 Board of Trustees**

- Jim Wok, President
- Joan Dye, Vice-President
- Judith Hartenburg, Secretary
- Linda Coult, Treasurer
- Bernice Gray
- Rick Rice
- Jean Winborn

Library Director: Jill Money

www.pulp-library.org

**YDL-Whittaker Road**

3577 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti, MI

48197 (734) 482-4810

**YDL-Michigan Avenue**

229 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, MI

48197 (734) 482-4810

**YDL-Superior**

9755 MacArthur Blvd., Ypsilanti, MI

48198 (734) 482-3747

**REVENUE EXPENDITURES**

- State A id $52,114 1% Con tractual $160,617 4%
- Interest & Other $223,928 5% Auto./Capital Outlay $423,060 10%
- State Revenue Sharing $11,622 0% Other $211,044 5%
- Grants/Donations/Friends $45,992 1% Utilities/Repairs $309,886 7%
- Industry $3,810,111 88% Salaries $2,524,941 60%
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**Ypsilanti District Library**

3577 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti, MI

48197 (734) 482-4810

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**YDL Library Card—Your Smart Card**

Our Mission: As a community resource, our mission is to enrich life, stimulate intellectual curiosity, foster literacy and encourage an informed citizenry.

**A Very Popular Destination**

**INSIDE...SOME REAL PAGE TURNERS!**

Rollover Minutes and Miles pg 2 | Midwest Storybook Mural pg 3

Meet the typical library patron pg 3 | Backward and forward progress pg 4

**YOU MAY HAVE TAKEN** fewer trips to the mall this past year. Maybe you didn’t eat out as much or see as many movies at the cinema. You also may have downsized your cable programming and even cut out the internet altogether. But the one thing you didn’t do in response to the economic challenges of 2008 is limit your visits to the Ypsilanti District Library.

In fact, for 93% of the people who live in our community, the YDL library card (also called the Smart Card) turned out to be one of the most valuable pieces of plastic in their wallets. Every day, at any time of the day (or night), they used their Smart Card for entertainment, information, or to feed a hungry mind. And all for free.

Historically in America, as the economy goes down library visits go up. But what makes last year noteworthy is how many times the doors swung open at libraries all across the country. According to the American Library Association, there were nearly 1.3 billion visits to local libraries with more than 2 billion items going out the door.

Although the numbers are staggering, they’re really not so surprising — not when you consider all that YDL has to offer. With a collection that now numbers over 300,000 books, DVDs, CDs and audiobooks, and an e-library with scores of online references and databases, it’s easy to understand why YDL was, and is a popular place. However, that’s just some of the offerings. There are also public access Internet stations and wireless access, study and tutor rooms, a community-room, and a Michigan/Ypsilanti Historical Room. In addition, there are hundreds of activities and special events throughout the year.

And with three locations and two bookmobiles serving the residents of Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, and Superior Township, it seems like there’s a YDL location right around the corner. In these economic times, that helps lots of people get the most mileage out of their Smart Card.
Dear Patrons,

Celebrating its 140th birthday this past summer was a joyful reminder of how large a part of our community YDL has become. No, YDL’s role as a valuable community resource is even more evident in our current difficult economic times. As belts tightened and family budgets dwindled this past year, many people turned to YDL—far entertainment, for activities, for communication and, in some cases, for job searches. To know we could provide these services when friends and neighbors are struggling made our jobs especially gratifying.

As beltstightened and family uncertainties, we remained commmitted from future economic uncer -

In April, YDL was the first stop on a national tour of The Donor Workshop—a Smithsonian exhibit featuring photographs that captured the essence of such per- formers as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Jacques d’Amboise, and Chita Rivera. Fall brought Plotting dancing, a poster collection which features paintings, photos, sculpture, architecture and fine arts. In October, the Heritage Room was home to a loosely collection of Depression era glass. And last winter, YDL served up some outdoorart with a carving of 600 pounds of ice that very much resembled Harry Potter and friends.

As the credits mounted, Mr. Bates thought about the perfect home for this Motawi Tile mural. His mother has always been a voracious reader so he decided to celebrate her favorite pastime with all of our community by donating the mural to the Ypsilanti District Library. As word spread about Lester’s plan, his employer decided to lend a hand by framing the mural. It is currently on display at YDL—Michigan Avenue. You can’t miss it as you descend the stairs to the youth department where many other storybook characters abound.

New Navigator

Get's 4 **** Rating

36 ft. long 11’5” high

33,000 lbs

3,253 items

LOTs.

As part of YDL’s new Outreach Services department, the Navigator joined the first bookmobile Big Blue on February 4, and has been racking up the miles ever since to Ypsilanti and Willow Run kindergarten classrooms and HeadStart classrooms. The bookmobiles also visit neighbor -

This past year at YDL could be summed up in the phrase: something for everyone. Aspiring songwriters attended a festival where they received tips on turning their homes into audio studios and followed the pros through the songwriting process. For those who preferred to step back and enjoy the works and performance of others, YDL offered a Take Note concert series that satisfied a variety of musical tastes. Even the younger crowd was entertained in breakouts with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Reading-related activities were a big part of 2008 at YDL. Many patrons participated in “China and America: Bridging Two Worlds,” the theme for Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads and welcomed author Anchee Min as part of the events. During National Library Week readers enjoyed a presentation by Alexander McCall Smith, author of the popular Ladies’ Detective Agency.

In summer, YDL celebrated its 140th birthday by kicking off the 2008 Summer Reading program with ice cream, musical entertainment and special rewards for adult, teen and children readers. YDL offered lots of different activities for the district’s youth this past year including Readers Theater, the Reading Team (teens reading with young children), a teen film festival, a crime lab with the Hands On Museum, a Reptiles Program, Bates, incredible, even a mobile planetarium. And then, there were activities that just don’t fit under any one category, unless the category is F.U.N. A Pop Vote contest for example. Learning Chinese paper cutting. Making a chocolate creation. Playing in a Fantasy Football League. And hundreds more.

New Navigator

Gets 4 **** Rating

36 ft. long 11’5” high

33,000 lbs

3,253 items

Typical YDL Patron

She was very busy last year…

• Checked out 856,475 books, DVDs and CDs

• Went to 37 meetings of book discussion groups

• Participated in 310 computer classes

• Attended 244 library-sponsored programs

• Enjoyed 5 Take Note @ YDL concerts

And this doesn’t account for all the places she accessed online through YDL’s E-Library!